

LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT | COURSE BROCHURE

Leading Innovation Teams

5 days | Classroom training | English

SMART HORIZON

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Course content

Why attend

Innovation teams need a different kind of leadership from operational teams: freedom to experiment within boundaries, tolerance of failure, fast learning and strong links to the core business. This course teaches leaders how to set up and lead innovation teams, manage innovation portfolios, run experiments and scale successful ideas.

Innovation units often struggle to deliver results the wider organisation adopts. You will learn how to lead innovation that produces real business impact.

Professional Problems This Course Is Designed to Solve

- Difficulty translating subject knowledge into practical workplace decisions.
- Inconsistent approaches to the activities covered in the course outline.
- Lack of a structured plan for applying and reviewing new skills.

Course methodology

Innovation case studies, design sprint practice, portfolio workshops and leadership reflection exercises.

Course objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:
- Explain what makes innovation teams different
- Set direction and boundaries for innovation
- Lead experimentation and rapid learning
- Manage an innovation portfolio
- Connect innovation with the core business
- Scale successful innovations

Target audience

This course is suitable for:
- Innovation and R&D managers
- Product and digital leaders
- Strategy and business development managers
- Team leaders in creative functions
- Intrapreneurs



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Target competencies

Participants will develop competencies in:

- Innovation leadership
- Experimentation
- Portfolio management
- Stakeholder alignment
- Scaling ideas

Course outline

Day 1: Innovation Leadership

09:00–10:08	Types of innovation
10:08–11:00	Leading creativity
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–11:45	Leading creativity (continued)
11:45–12:53	Psychological safety
12:53–14:00	Exercise: innovation climate check

Day 2: Experimentation

09:00–10:08	Hypothesis-driven work
10:08–11:00	Prototypes and tests
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–11:45	Prototypes and tests (continued)
11:45–12:53	Learning from failure
12:53–14:00	Mini design sprint

Day 3: Innovation Portfolio

09:00–10:08	Horizons of innovation
10:08–11:00	Stage-gate and metered funding
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**



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11:30–11:45	Stage-gate and metered funding (continued)
11:45–12:53	Kill and pivot decisions
12:53–14:00	Workshop: portfolio review

Day 4: Working with the Core

09:00–10:08	Sponsorship and governance
10:08–11:00	Transferring ideas to operations
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–11:45	Transferring ideas to operations (continued)
11:45–12:53	Avoiding the corporate immune system
12:53–14:00	Case study

Day 5: Scaling Impact

09:00–10:08	Scaling successful pilots
10:08–11:00	Measuring innovation
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–11:45	Measuring innovation (continued)
11:45–12:53	Building capability
12:53–14:00	Action plan

The timings provided are estimates and may vary depending on the number of participants and the discussions taking place during the sessions. They are indicative only and do not constitute a binding commitment.



Course content

Dates, venues and fees

Current published course plans. Fees are per participant in EUR, excluding unconfirmed taxes.

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (EUR)
Paris Confirmed dates	16 Nov 2026	20 Nov 2026	**€2,860.–**
Online Confirmed dates	16 Nov 2026	20 Nov 2026	**€1,250.–**
Rome Confirmed dates	7 Dec 2026	11 Dec 2026	**€2,450.–**
Online Confirmed dates	7 Dec 2026	11 Dec 2026	**€1,250.–**
London Confirmed dates	11 Jan 2027	15 Jan 2027	**€2,450.–**
Online Confirmed dates	11 Jan 2027	15 Jan 2027	**€1,250.–**
Barcelona Confirmed dates	1 Feb 2027	5 Feb 2027	**€2,840.–**
Online Confirmed dates	1 Feb 2027	5 Feb 2027	**€1,250.–**
London Confirmed dates	15 Feb 2027	19 Feb 2027	**€2,450.–**



Course content

Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (EUR)
Online Confirmed dates	15 Feb 2027	19 Feb 2027	**€1,250.–**
Rome Confirmed dates	8 Mar 2027	12 Mar 2027	**€2,450.–**
Online Confirmed dates	8 Mar 2027	12 Mar 2027	**€1,250.–**
Amsterdam Confirmed dates	29 Mar 2027	2 Apr 2027	**€2,540.–**
Online Confirmed dates	29 Mar 2027	2 Apr 2027	**€1,250.–**
Cape Town Confirmed dates	19 Apr 2027	23 Apr 2027	**€1,890.–**
Online Confirmed dates	19 Apr 2027	23 Apr 2027	**€1,250.–**
Rome Confirmed dates	10 May 2027	14 May 2027	**€2,450.–**
Online Confirmed dates	10 May 2027	14 May 2027	**€1,250.–**



Course content

Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (EUR)
Kuala Lumpur Confirmed dates	24 May 2027	28 May 2027	**€1,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	24 May 2027	28 May 2027	**€1,250.-**
Dubai Confirmed dates	14 Jun 2027	18 Jun 2027	**€3,150.-**
Online Confirmed dates	14 Jun 2027	18 Jun 2027	**€1,250.-**
Vienna Confirmed dates	5 Jul 2027	9 Jul 2027	**€2,940.-**
Online Confirmed dates	5 Jul 2027	9 Jul 2027	**€1,250.-**
Dubai Confirmed dates	26 Jul 2027	30 Jul 2027	**€3,150.-**
Online Confirmed dates	26 Jul 2027	30 Jul 2027	**€1,250.-**
Cape Town Confirmed dates	16 Aug 2027	20 Aug 2027	**€1,890.-**



Course content

Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (EUR)
Online Confirmed dates	16 Aug 2027	20 Aug 2027	**€1,250.-**
Istanbul Confirmed dates	30 Aug 2027	3 Sept 2027	**€2,650.-**
Online Confirmed dates	30 Aug 2027	3 Sept 2027	**€1,250.-**
Barcelona Confirmed dates	20 Sept 2027	24 Sept 2027	**€2,840.-**
Online Confirmed dates	20 Sept 2027	24 Sept 2027	**€1,250.-**
Dubai Confirmed dates	11 Oct 2027	15 Oct 2027	**€3,150.-**
Online Confirmed dates	11 Oct 2027	15 Oct 2027	**€1,250.-**
Cape Town Confirmed dates	1 Nov 2027	5 Nov 2027	**€1,890.-**
Online Confirmed dates	1 Nov 2027	5 Nov 2027	**€1,250.-**



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Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (EUR)
Frankfurt Confirmed dates	22 Nov 2027	26 Nov 2027	**€2,650.-**
Online Confirmed dates	22 Nov 2027	26 Nov 2027	**€1,250.-**
Vienna Confirmed dates	6 Dec 2027	10 Dec 2027	**€2,940.-**
Online Confirmed dates	6 Dec 2027	10 Dec 2027	**€1,250.-**

Plan your next step

Dates, availability, exact venue, taxes, inclusions and payment terms require written confirmation. This brochure is not a quotation, registration, booking confirmation or visa invitation. Participants receive a Smart Horizon certificate of attendance; programmes are not externally accredited and do not award a professional qualification or designation. Confirm arrangements before booking travel.

For group or in-house training, contact our learning team to discuss your objectives and delivery arrangements.

Contact Smart Horizon

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View the latest course details online