



SKILLS FOR SUCCESS IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD

Programme overview: TSIBA Elevate Career Accelerator

2026

Jan - March intake Register by Nov		July - Aug intake Register by June		Sept - Nov intake Register by July	
Online	In person, Cape Town	Online	In person, Cape Town	Online	In person, Cape Town
12 -15 Jan	17 Jan - 22 Feb	13-16 July	18 July - 23 Aug	7-10 Sep	12 Sep - 18 Oct

*Contact the global office for more details.



THE ELEVATE PROGRAMME

TSIBA Elevate is an international 6-week career accelerator programme. It is designed to prepare 18 to 24-year-olds with practical skills for success in the future job market, bridging the gap between studies and the real world. Week 1 is online, and weeks 2-6 in person, Cape Town.

Why this matters now

Even the most talented young people are finding it hard to secure their first role after university. Traditional advantages — strong grades, family networks, and prestigious schooling — no longer guarantee opportunity. The challenges are multiple and compounding:

- **Mismatch of skills vs. requirements:** Employers increasingly demand skills not always taught in traditional curricula.
- **Lack of real-world experience:** Internships and work experience are scarce, leaving many students with CVs that don't demonstrate what they can do.
- **High competition and low entry points:** Graduate vacancies now attract an average of 140 applications per role — the highest in 30 years, with openings at their lowest level in seven years.
- **Globalisation and rapid change:** AI, digitalisation, and remote work are shifting the landscape faster than universities can adapt.
- **AI disruption:** Harvard Business Review warns that automating entry-level roles with AI strips away the "training ground" for future leaders. A Stanford University study shows employment for 22–25-year-olds in AI-exposed jobs has fallen by 13–20% since late 2022, cuts are concentrated in entry-level posts.



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The message is clear: Grades and networks are no longer enough. What differentiates candidates today are skills, experience, perspective, and the ability to thrive alongside AI.

How TSIBA Elevate is different

On the surface, TSIBA Elevate could look like “just another summer school.” But three distinctive features set it apart:

- **One-for-One Social Impact** – Every fee-paying student sponsors a deserving African peer. One investment changes two lives – a values-driven choice not just a CV booster.
- **The “Secret Sauce” Peer Mix** – Students from world-class independent schools learn alongside African scholarship awardees who have earned their place through talent, ambition, and determination. This peer-learning exchange exposes students to cross-cultural agility and the competitive edge needed to thrive in a globalised job market.
- **Immersion in a Global-South Innovation Hub** - Cape Town is one of the most innovative and entrepreneurial cities in the Global South. Students don’t just learn leadership — they practice it where innovation is survival.

What students gain

- **Practical skills:** Leadership, data literacy, project management, communication, innovation.
- **Evidence for applications:** The Keystone Project — a tangible work product and compelling story for UCAS, Common App, or scholarship interviews.
- **Global citizenship:** Maturity and perspective from working alongside peers with very different life experiences.
- **Impact:** The knowledge that your fee funds another young leader’s chance.
- **Entrepreneurship & Innovation:** Gain the mindset and skills needed to solve complex problems and develop scalable business structures.



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Week 1 - SETTING THE SCENE (Online)						
Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Weekend
Topic	Welcome and Programme Overview	Leading for Change	Cross-cultural understanding within a Business context	DEPART	TRAVEL DAY	ARRIVE IN CPT ON SATURDAY <i>(Collection from airport arranged to your housing)</i>
Format	Webinar	Webinar	Webinar			
Morning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme expectations & pre-reading • Accommodation and Transport • Scheduled Adventures • Explore on your own 	"Whenever smart and well-intentioned people avoid confronting obstacles, they disempower employees and undermine change." — John P. Kotter, Leading Change [with a New Preface]	"To understand and be understood are fundamental to human interaction." - David C. Thomas and Kerr C. Inkson			
Afternoon	-----	-----	-----			
Evening		Self-study, online Innovation Flipbook series	Self-study, online Innovation Flipbook series			



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Week 2 - ENTREPRENEURIAL CULTURE AND AN INNOVATION MINDSET						
Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Weekend
Topic	Welcome to Cape Town and Innovation City	Exploring Entrepreneurial Culture in Business	Jobs to be Done Theory - Understanding Customer Needs	Defining a Value Proposition	Sustainable Development Goals	Scheduled Cultural Immersion: Explore Cape Town CBD on foot with Local Guide
Format	In Person	In Person	In Person	In Person	Field Trip	
Morning	Presentation: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Tour of Innovation CityOverview of the ProgrammeExplore Keystone Project Theme	Lecture	Lecture	Lecture <ul style="list-style-type: none">Value Proposition Canvas	Campus Tour <ul style="list-style-type: none">Meet TSIBA Business School studentsLecture: SDG's African problems and solutions	
Lunch provided on Campus						
Afternoon	Panel Discussion: Innovation Mindset	Action Learning Workshop	Action Learning Workshop	Intaka Island talk + Boat trip	Practical Exercise: Conceptualise innovative solutions aligned with SDGs	
Evening	Welcome Dinner			Weekly Mingle, Dinner at Century City		



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Week 3 - PROJECT MANAGEMENT FOR UNOFFICIAL PROJECT MANAGERS						
Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Weekend
Topic	Introduction to Project Management	Defining Objectives and Scope	Time, Resources and Risks	Communications and Stakeholder Management	Keystone Project: Integrating sustainability into business cultures. Develop innovative solutions aligned with SDGs challenges.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Explore on your own
Format	In Person	In Person	In Person	In Person	In Person	
Morning	Lecture <ul style="list-style-type: none">What is a Project?Exploring PM Methodologies	Lecture	Lecture <ul style="list-style-type: none">WBS, Milestones and Dependencies	Lecture <ul style="list-style-type: none">RACI	Group Work Put your learning into action	
Lunch provided on Campus						
Afternoon	Action Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none">Exploring enabling PM software tools	Action Learning Workshop	Action Learning Workshop	Action Learning Workshop	Group Work Put your learning into action	
Evening	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homework <input type="checkbox"/> Explore on your own	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homework <input type="checkbox"/> Explore on your own	Weekly Mingle with Guest Speaker <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Explore on your own	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homework <input type="checkbox"/> Explore on your own	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Explore on your own	



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Week 4 - BIG DATA, BIG ANALYTICS						
Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Weekend
Topic	Introduction to Data Science:	Data Sets and Visualisation	Business Intelligence and Data Analytics	Data Driven Business Decisions		Scheduled Cultural Immersion: !Khwa ttu Nature Reserve
Format	In Person	In Person	In Person	In Person	In Person	
Morning	Lecture <ul style="list-style-type: none">Logical ThinkingBasic Calculations	Lecture <ul style="list-style-type: none">Use Spreadsheets to Analyse and Visualise Data	Lecture	Lecture <ul style="list-style-type: none">Exploring Reporting Software	Group Work Find or collate and analyse relevant datasets to inform decisions and motivate solutions for chosen keystone project	
Lunch provided on Campus						
Afternoon	Action Learning Workshop	Action Learning Workshop	Action Learning Workshop	Fireside Chat in the Atrium Innovative Data Driven Businesses	Group Work Find or collate and analyse relevant datasets to inform decisions and motivate solutions for chosen keystone project	
Evening	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homework <input type="checkbox"/> Explore on your own	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homework <input type="checkbox"/> Explore on your own	Weekly Mingle with Guest Speaker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homework <input type="checkbox"/> Explore on your own	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homework <input type="checkbox"/> Explore on your own	



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Week 5 A DESIGN THINKING SPRINT FOR INNOVATION AND IMPACT						
Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Weekend
Topic	Ideation	Research and Validation	Prototyping and MVP Development	Keystone Project Refinement	Philippi Village	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Explore on your own
Format	In Person	In Person	In Person	In Person	In Person	
Morning	Action Learning Workshop	Action Learning Workshop	Action Learning Workshop	Action Learning Workshop	Field Trip: Visit to a Co-Working Space (Philippi Village)	
	"Design thinking is a human-centered approach to innovation that draws from the designer's toolkit to integrate the needs of people, the possibilities of technology, and the requirements for business success." - Tim Brown, CEO of IDEO					
Lunch provided on Campus						
Afternoon	Group Work	Group Work	Group Work	Outing: Aquarium + V&A Waterfront	Panel Discussion: "Beyond Numbers and Prototypes: How Compelling Narratives Fuel Startup Growth and Transform Corporate Innovation."	
Evening	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homework <input type="checkbox"/> Explore on your own	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homework <input type="checkbox"/> Explore on your own	Weekly Mingle with Guest Speaker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homework <input type="checkbox"/> Explore on your own	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Explore on your own	



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Week 6 - THE FINAL STRETCH - EFFECTIVE COMMS AND PRESENTATIONS						
Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Weekend
Topic	Active Listening:	The Art of Storytelling	KEYSTONE PROJECT	KEYSTONE PROJECT	EVENT Keystone Project Pitching and Programme Close	ON YOUR WAY HOME (Final included Accommodation check-out date)
Format	In Person	In Person	In Person	In Person		
Morning	Lecture Mindfulness, Empathetic Listening and Non-verbal Communication	"The art of communication is the language of leadership." - James Humes	Reflect and Refine Presentations	Pitching and Presentation Skills Refinement		
Lunch provided on Campus						
Afternoon	Project Milestone Checkpoint and Feedback	Prototype Refinement and Testing	Reflect and Refine Presentations	Pitching and Presentation Skills Refinement		
Evening	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Explore on your own	Weekly Mingle with Guest Speaker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Explore on your own	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Explore on your own		

