

## Professor challenges and supports students

Written by Ariana M. Taylor, Daily Vidette Staff Writer  
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Born in Terre Haute, Ind., Doan Winkel, assistant professor of entrepreneurship in the department of management and quantitative methods in the State Farm Hall of Business, came to ISU to simply teach, however he quickly realized that this university and its location had more to offer.

In August 2010, Winkel began teaching at ISU and was not only pleased with the university, but was very content with the Bloomington–Normal community as a whole. He explained this town is “much better” than his hometown.

“I grew up in Indiana and my wife is from the Southside of Chicago so [Bloomington-Normal] was a good geographical location,” Winkel said. “It’s a bit more vibrant of a town [than Terre Haute because] there’s more going on, and there’s more opportunities for business and for little kids.”

According to Winkel, when he arrived at ISU the entrepreneurship program was “just sort of starting to grow” and he is appreciative that he could be of aid in its development.

Winkel received a Ph.D. in Management Science from the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee, and his MBA and bachelor degrees from Colorado State University. He said that he always had the desire to teach because his father was once a professor.

“My father was a professor ... it’s in the blood. He just retired but he taught mathematics, calculus, and differential equations for about 40 years,” Winkel said.

While Winkel takes pleasure in teaching at ISU, he is also one of the directors of the Entrepreneurship Education Project. The purpose of the project is to help individuals better

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identify with the connections between entrepreneurship in the classroom and entrepreneurship in modern society.



According to the Entrepreneurship Education Project's website, "these insights can help educators and administrators understand what educational resources and strategies are most effective for developing and sustaining entrepreneurial self-efficacy and identity in students."

Although Winkel is typically occupied with his students or his research, he states that his most gratifying pastime is playing with his six-year-old son.

In addition, like most of his students, he mentions that after a stressful day he enjoys sleeping.

Apollonia Barrientos, junior human resource management major, discusses her experience as a student in Winkel's small business MQM 223 course.

"I consider Winkel more of an outgoing professor. He uses a lot of humor and real-life scenarios to keep students engaged. I think it really helps students learn when a professor is more towards the outgoing side of the spectrum," Barrientos said.

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Although Winkel may allot complex assignments, Barrientos explained that he goes above and beyond to be accessible to students who are in need of help.

Barrientos added, “Winkel has office hours like any professor but on top of that he answers emails in a timely matter along with hours to call his home if we are in need of assistance. It’s nice to know, with having a busy schedule, I can still get in contact with him outside of his office hours.”

Barrientos said that Winkel has helped her better comprehend the “ins and outs of a business.”

In addition, she now understands that there is a great deal of hard work and dedication required to become a thriving entrepreneur.

“I would definitely take another class with Winkel [because] his hands-on teaching really helps [me] learn the material,” Barrientos added.

“Some [students] may find his assignments a little difficult but I think if it were any easier it would be like any other class where you’d spend a lot of time memorizing and not learning majority of what you’ve tried to retain,” she said.

Winkel continues to encourage students to pursue their goals, while advising them to bear in mind success does not come easy.

“I try to show [students] that anything is possible. Whatever they want to accomplish, they can do that by just thinking a little more productively,” Winkel said.