

S I L I C O N
V A L L E Y

12-23 May 2025

François Rioux

Faculty Lecturer, Entrepreneurship and Innovation



Teacher's profile



François Rioux

Professional profile

- Faculty Lecturer, Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- General Manager, *60e Finale des Jeux du Québec* - Winter 2026
- Board Member, at *l'École nationale de l'humour (ÉNH)*
- Keynote speaker (ongoing)
- President of Edphy International (2014-2022)
- President of Gestion immobilière Brimaclo Inc. (2017-2022)

Education

EMBA, Université Concordia



Teacher's profile



Bertrand Nepveu

Passionate about video games and gadgets, he founded Vrvana in 2005 to play his favorite games on Xbox in virtual reality.

After several pivots: combining augmented and virtual reality, transitioning from a B2C to B2B model, and adding hands as a controller, the Totem won the prestigious Best in Show award from Tom's Hardware at CES 2017. That's when he and his team moved to California to continue the adventure with Apple in what became the Vision Pro.

After almost 3 years, he returned to Montréal and co-founded Triptyq Capital to support the new generation of entrepreneurs in the creative industries. Bertrand holds a bachelor's degree in computer engineering from the University of Sherbrooke and an MBA from HEC Montreal. He is also the co-author of *Manifeste québécois du Métavers*.



Silicon Valley Start-ups





On the agenda

- 12 days, approximately 20 visits of start-ups, VCs, etc.
- Cultural activities and visits too

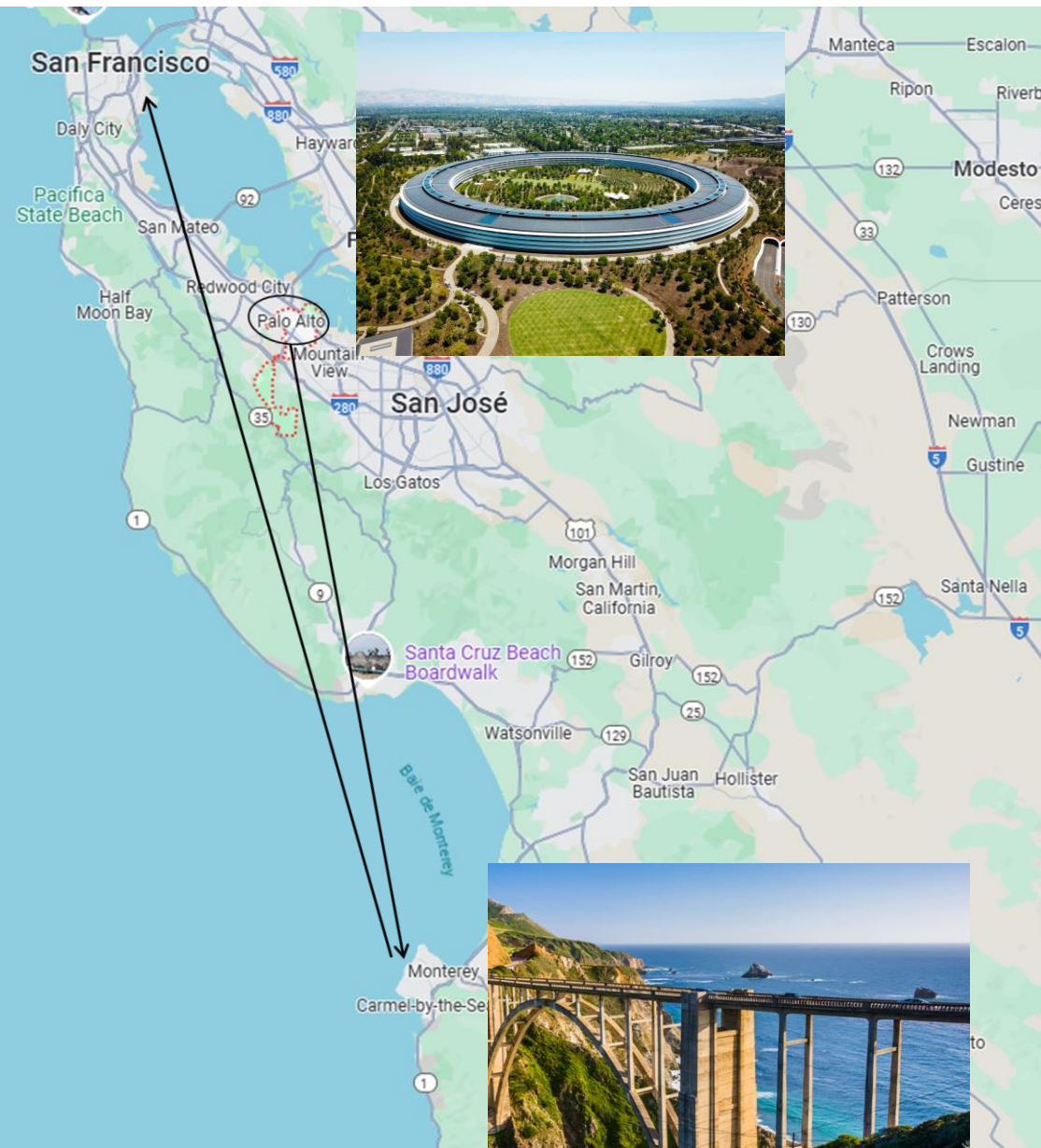
Not an exhaustive list of activities:

- Visit at the Haas School of Business
- Visit at the Stanford Graduate School of Business
- Presentation of the AQSVM's service offerings/activities
- Exchange at AQSVM with 4-5 Quebecers from the high-tech sector established in the San Francisco Bay Area
- Visit at Swissnex



Additional suggested activities:

- Plug and Play
- Microsoft tour
- Stanford tour
- Computer History museum
- Apple Park visitor center
- Overview | Mountain view (Google)
- California Academy of Sciences



Itinerary

May 12th to May 15th – Palo Alto

May 16th to May 18th – Monterey

May 18th to May 23rd – San Francisco



12-23 May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	12 Palo Alto Arrival in Palo Alto First night included	13 Palo Alto Visits	14 Palo Alto Visits	15 Palo Alto Visits	16 Palo Alto Transfer to Monterrey	17 Monterrey Cultural Day
18 Monterrey Day off <i>Transfer to SF</i>	19 San Francisco Visits	20 San Francisco Visits	21 San Francisco Visits	22 San Francisco Visits	23 San Francisco Check-out END	
San Francisco						

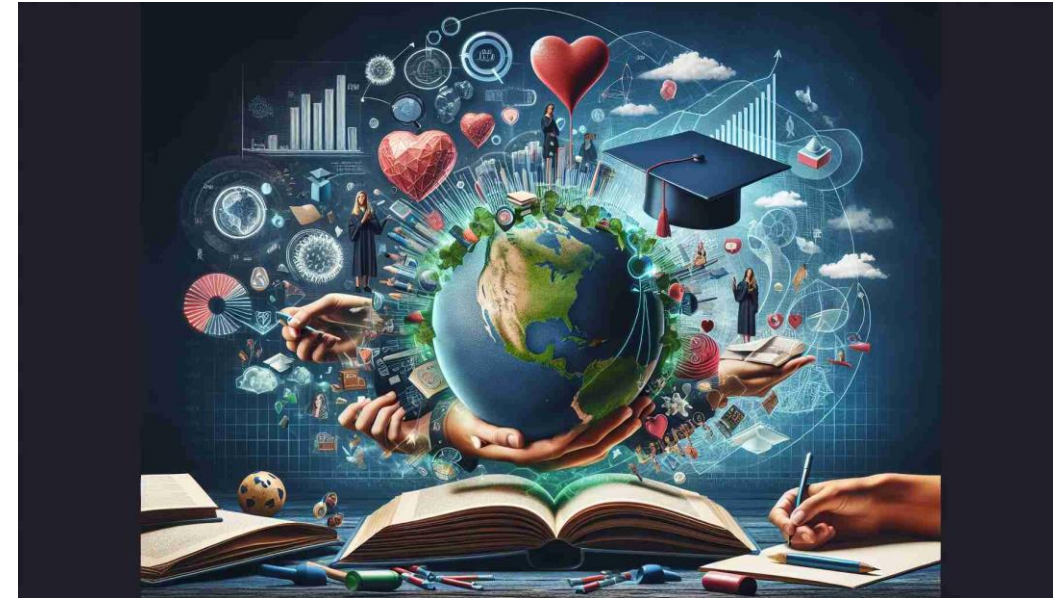


Course evaluation

Participation: 20%

Team assignement : 30%

Individual assignement: 50%





Logistics

HEC Montréal takes care of:

- All academic and business activities
- Accommodation (11 nights / two people per room)
- Shuttle bus transfer Palo Alto-»Monterrey and Monterrey-»San Francisco
- Some cultural activities
- Some meals

You take care of:

- Your round-trip Montreal-San Francisco plane ticket and travel insurance
- Your meals
- Your free time activities



Accommodation

- Double Occupation
- 2 beds



[Palo Alto – Hotel Zen](#)

4 nights including breakfast



[Monterrey – Stargazer](#)

2 nights



[San Francisco – Marriott](#)

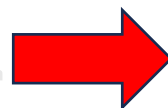
[Vacation Club](#)

5 nights



Budget

Trip fees* <small>*paid to HEC Montréal</small>	2600-2800\$
International flight and Insurances** <small>**each participant is responsible for the purchase of its international flight ticket and insurances</small>	around 1000\$
Institutional fees	255\$
Total:	3855\$ – 4055\$





See you soon!