

KIRAN SAJWANI

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Education

Master of Business Administration · Strategy and Innovation

University of Toronto · Rotman School of
Management
2013

Bachelor of Science in Business · Marketing

Champlain College
2003

Speaking

The Strategy Side of Design

Athath Fellowship
2021, 2022, 2023

Connections through Culture

EXPO, Women's Pavilion, and Irthi
Contemporary Crafts Council
2021

Creative Conversations: Evolution of Creative Education

Project Tawahadna and ATÖLYE
2021

Design for Change

Al Akhawayn University
2021

Jamming remotely at #GSJam2020 featuring the Dubai Jam team

The Global Jams Podcast at The Human
Centered Design Network – This is HCD
2020

Purpose

Speaker at CreativeMornings
2020

Experience

Lead Design Strategist & Facilitator

Freelance
September 2014 – Present

I lead the design and delivery of design research, strategic design, and digital transformation projects for clients in various industries, including government, transportation, education, sports, and hospitality. I also facilitate leadership retreats and workshops around creative problem solving, design thinking, and service design. I co-organize the Dubai Service Jam, and was appointed to the Global Council for the Global Service Jam.

Select agencies: Palmwood, SYPartners, ATÖLYE, Orikami Lab, DinarStandard, Sajory, The Intrapreneur Lab

Design Management · Adjunct Professor

American University of Sharjah · College of Architecture, Art and Design
August 2018 – Present

I teach senior-level, studio-based courses on Design Strategy, Service Design, and Design-led Innovation, with client projects. I also guest lecture on design ethics and design culture.

Design Study Tour (New York City) · Project Manager

University of Toronto · Rotman School of Management
January 2014 – June 2014

I managed a study tour of design-driven and innovation-centered firms in New York, and led discussions with CEOs.

Business Design Strategist

Vuka Innovation Inc.
December 2013 – April 2014

I applied design-inspired tools and systems to solve clients' business challenges on organizational and human levels, through ethnographic field research and synthesis, and developed customer-focused strategic initiatives.

Research Project for Mubadala

University of Toronto · Rotman School of Management
May 2012 – April 2013

I researched investment determinants involved in attracting foreign capital and enhancing regional prosperity in the GCC, for Mubadala, under the supervision of Professor Walid Hejazi.

Co-Founder and Partner

Fluffy Clouds
November 2010 – April 2012

I directed a self-funded business venture around handcrafted babywear and accessories, and collaborated with the artisan co-founder to explore retail opportunities.