

Abigail Collier's

Interdisciplinary Study Proposal

Sports Business Management

Personal Statement:

I have been intrigued about sports for as long as I can remember. When growing up I knew that I wanted to have a career that was somehow related to sports. Whether that was a professional athlete, athletic trainer, athletic director, coach, marketing, and so forth. Over the years I have gotten more involved in my family's volleyball club and that has allowed me to see the behind the scenes of a business, specifically a sports related business. I have grown to love the strategic, organizational, competitive, creative, and social aspects within sports. My goal after school is to take over my family's volleyball club. I have been integrating myself within the business since high school. I have been coaching for years, and have slowly started to take more responsibilities like budgets, apparel, organizing camps and dates, etc. When deciding what college would best fit me academically, I looked at what majors colleges provided and what courses consisted of those majors. Hendrix's interdisciplinary major stood out during that process. I thought it was perfect that I could personally choose what courses would best fit my career and life long goals.

Learning Goals:

- The student will demonstrate the ability to integrate concepts and critical thinking approaches from two or more academic disciplines.
- The student will create written, oral, visual, or multimedia materials that demonstrate the ability to present and analyze evidence.
- An understanding and knowledge about financials and overall structures throughout a business.

- Learn and demonstrate skills and concepts attributed to being a coach and being in the sports industry

Course Selection:

My future career plans are to be a coach and to run a volleyball facility and club. I have looked at many sports management programs and I have modeled this major as close as I could to those programs in addition to what would best prepare me for success. Because there is no longer a kinesiology program at Hendrix I replaced those courses with biology, health science, psychology, and a sociology course. For the most part I want my major to focus more on the business side of sports management. I also chose to do independent study courses that are facilities management and sports and social issues. Being able to work with Coach Weaver for my Facilities Management course has given me the opportunity to learn from somebody that has had years of experience. During this course we are focusing on the processes of new facilities like building the new beach volleyball facility, and the daily operations of current facilities. Being able to do this independent study will help me have the knowledge about building a facility from the start and what needs to be done to maintain it. During my last semester I plan doing Sports and Social Issues as an independent study to be able to dive in deeper on how societal factors correlate with sports today. This course will help me have a deeper understanding about problems that different athletes face and how I can grow my perspective to be able to communicate and relate to everybody in my future work environment. Having the accounting knowledge from principles of accounting I and II, in addition to cost accounting will help me delegate and manage the financial duties of a business. I feel that having the variety of business courses that I have taken will help me succeed even more with owning my own business because I have learned about so many aspects of how a business operates financially. I believe the psychology courses I have taken have given me the base

knowledge to have a greater understanding and perspective for the Sports and Social Issues course. The Anatomy and Physiology and Athletic Injuries courses have given me a broad knowledge about strengths and weaknesses of the human body. These courses will help me work with athletes in the future because I now know why the body works the way it does and if anything goes wrong there is a more likely chance that I will be able to help them.

Senior Capstone Project

I have secured an internship related to my sports management major. This internship will be used as the foundation of my senior capstone project. My internship will be with Stingray Volleyball Academy, a juniors volleyball club. I will be working hands on with the director of the club and will be involved with the management of the players, staff, facilities, and overall business. Having this opportunity will allow me to use what I have learned in the classroom at Hendrix in real life scenarios, which will allow me to expand my knowledge with hands on experience in a related field. My senior capstone project will consist of a paper about my experiences at my internship. I will also be following the guidelines through the internship office for the internship for an academic grade. Throughout the fall semester I will be meeting with my advisor once a week to discuss the internship and how it is integrated with the academic material. At the end of the semester I will turn in a twelve page paper on a topic that I agree upon with my advisor.

Conclusion

Being able to do an interdisciplinary major like this is one of the main reasons Hendrix stood out to me. I believe this specific major will allow me to have many successes in my future career and in many other aspects that my future holds. This major will allow me to have the full liberal arts education by being able to learn about many departments and be able to apply the different aspects to real life.

Required Course Work:

Business

BUSI 200 Principles of Accounting I

BUSI 210 Principles of Accounting II

BUSI 261 Sports Management

BUSI 330 Cost Accounting

BUSI 4xx Independent Study/Facility Management

BUSI 4xx Independent Internship - Sports Administration (Senior Capstone)

Biology

BIOL 205 Anatomy and Physiology I

BIOL 215 Anatomy and Physiology II

Health Science

HESC 200 Introduction to Athletic Injuries

HESC 265 Nutrition

Psychology

PSYC 351 Health Psychology

Sociology

Soci 4xx Independent Study/Sports and Social Issues

Dr. Lyle Rupert (Committee Chair)



Dr. J.D. Gantz

Student Signature