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COMM 115P

Workshop Proposal

Student athletes have a lot to learn when they get to college. It’s generally the first time in their lives they’re living on their own and there’s a lot of pressure for them to perform in their sport and in the classroom. Being a student athlete is a unique experience that is much different from the life of just being a student. This proposal will discuss the reasons why I believe a conflict workshop would be beneficial to new student athletes as they make their transition into college.

Target Audience & Background Information

Student athletes are a part of almost every college across the country but make up a very small percentage of the student body. Nonetheless, the expectations of a student athlete are double or triple those of a non-student athlete. It’s a fine line of balancing morning practice, weight lifting sessions, afternoon practice, mandatory NCAA and school compliance meetings, and competitions with classes and their demands. From my own experience as a student athlete, it’s not only difficult to balance these two very different schedules, but conflicts arise all the time with class scheduling, midterms and finals, coaches’ expectations, professors not accepting travel letters, and so much more.

Justification of the Workshop

I believe that a conflict resolution workshop is extremely beneficial to student athletes as they start their school and athletic career. The types of information covered would range from simple topics about when an athlete can miss class for an excused reason, to more complex topics like who to contact when a professor and their respective department say you’ll receive a 0% on exam when you miss a class for a competition. I also plan on covering how to resolve conflicts that may arise with coaches. The biggest one I’ve seen is missing practice to take a class that’s only offered once a year during practice time. In my own experiences I’ve had academic advisors recommend I change my major from computer science to something easier because the course load may be hard to handle with training. It would have been so much better having the answers to these scenarios rather than having to figure it out on my own.

Planned Materials

I plan on using a PowerPoint presentation to cover the information that will be useful for the student athletes to know. I also plan on creating a handout with different paths of conflict resolution and the person or people they can contact if they need further assistance. The PowerPoint will be used to inform them of conflicts they may face while in school and the handout will be something they can use later in the future when they encounter conflict.

Research

I plan on doing interviews with coaches from San Jose State’s Athletic Department to find out what they believe is are scenarios that create conflict for their student athletes and how they go about resolving the issues. I also will be distributing a survey to student athletes from San Jose State and other universities to get a better idea of what they find causes the most conflict for them. This way the information isn’t just based on my experiences, but a wider group of people. In addition, I will also be using peer reviewed journal articles and dissertations to further my research. I have included a few examples of these sources in the page below.

References

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/00336297.2017.1333437?src=recsys&journalCode=uqst20>

<https://sjsu-primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/primo-explore/fulldisplay?docid=TN_gale_ofa406489459&context=PC&vid=01CALS_SJO&search_scope=ALL_ARTICLES&tab=articles&lang=en_US>

<https://sjsu-primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/primo-explore/fulldisplay?docid=TN_ethosoai:ethos.bl.uk:412985&context=PC&vid=01CALS_SJO&search_scope=ALL_ARTICLES&tab=articles&lang=en_US>

<https://sjsu-primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/primo-explore/fulldisplay?docid=TN_proquest304425608&context=PC&vid=01CALS_SJO&search_scope=ALL_ARTICLES&tab=articles&lang=en_US>

Hello Craig, – A good justification for the conflict workshop. It is great to see that you have detailed what types of materials you will use for the workshop. One thing though - A more detailed reference page should have been included here, listing out what ‘pre-research’ you have done to help support your workshop. Since this project requires you to use outside sources to inform your workshop and subsequent paper, the requirement was to include some sources you have already found. I understand that the reference page will change, depending on what type of research is conducted as the project moves forward, but a pre-research reference list in APA citation should have been included here. All-in-all, I can’t wait to see your workshop, and subsequent analysis paper.

Grade: 20/25