

**HPER H163 FRESHMAN TOPICS FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES
FALL 2008**

Class Meeting Times

Section :Thursday 9-9:50 am

Section: Tuesday, 1:30-2:20 pm

Instructor: Leslie Clark,

Director, Mastodon Academic Performance Center

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Class Meeting Locations: TUESDAY: Kettler G98 Thursday : SB 176

Course Objective: This course has been designed specifically for freshmen student-athletes. It will cover a variety of topics useful for all incoming students, but will have a special emphasis on the issues that impact your success as students and the IPFW Baccalaureate Framework. Student-athletes will gain a better understanding of the unique mental and physical demands made on them as college students, as well as an understanding of university life and expectations.

Text: A Student Athlete's Guide to College Success: Peak Performance in Class and Life, 2nd Edition. 2003. Trent Petrie & Eric Denson, Wadsworth Publishing Co. **DO NOT BUY THIS TEXT.** I will use it as a resource material only.

Attendance and Participation are required. Attendance will be reported to your coaches and you will be held responsible for any material covered in class and any assignments made. Competition constitutes the ONLY acceptable reason to miss class and student-athletes are expected to follow athletic department procedure in this instance i.e. completing your Missed Class Worksheets to reflect classes missed for athletic competition and your plan to complete assignments. Please be advised that IPFW does not grant an automatic excused absence for student-athletes. Each student-athlete must work closely with his or her professors to work out solutions to problems created by game and class conflicts. Remember if you must be absent for any reason you are still responsible for any material presented during that class time.

This class will be conducted in a class discussion format so although there will be times when I impart information to you, the expectation is that you will be actively engaged in the discussions. Your opinions and knowledge are valuable and will be respected. We will do a lot of writing in this class; good grammar and sentence skills are a must as well as solid in-depth discussion of the topic assigned. I do not assign word counts; however, when the assignment is 2-3 pages that means closer to 3 pages than 2.

Coursework: Writing assignments, oral presentations (10-15 MINUTES EACH), class discussion, and occasional quizzes.

For this course, you will be compiling a portfolio for this class consisting of 8 sections that will include all course work, quizzes, and explorations assigned.

The portfolio sections are:

1. Self reflection on what it means to you to be a college student; how does it feel, what goals do you have for the semester, what plan do you have for achieving those goals, what is your dream and how do your goals fit into achieving your dream? (4 to 6 pages)
2. Acquiring knowledge of—NCAA rules, academic requirements of your department, what you need to accomplish your goals, a current topic [to be determined by Ms. Clark] (your reflections on these things—4 to 6 pages)
3. Applying the knowledge you have acquired—how to monitor eligibility and degree progress; forming an opinion on the current topic. (4 to 6 pages)
4. Communication—using research and knowledge you have gained to express the opinion and being prepared to defend your opinion to the class. (Oral presentation; 5-8 pages)
5. Professional and Personal Values—what are examples of poor value systems, what images can you find that express good and bad value systems, where do you, your parents, your coaches, IPFW, and the NCAA stand on issue of developing good ethical systems of behavior? (4 to 6 pages)
6. Community Service—examine what community service means, discuss community service projects you have been involved with, describe your experience. (4 to 6 pages)
7. Critical thinking and Problem solving skills—examine the current topic looking at its purpose and history, the reason for it, flaws in it, why it needs to be changed (or not), and ways to improve upon it. (6 to 10 pages)
8. Self reflection—how was your first semester as a college student, what did you learn about yourself, what would you change, what are your goals for next semester, how have they changed, and has your dream changed? (3 to 4 pages)

Portfolio sections will be graded on inclusion [or lack of] material completed throughout the semester and the quality of that work.

Evaluation:

Attendance (15 meetings)	150	points
Portfolio Sections 1 and 8	100	points (50 each)
Portfolio Sections 2 through 7	450	points (75 each)
Activities & Participation	100	points
	800	Total Points

Grade Scale

A = 700-800 points B =600-699 points C = 500-599 points D =400-499 points F = Below 400

Classroom Behavior: In addition to being on time and being prepared for this course, you are expected to:

- Practice good classroom etiquette
- Respect the ideas and opinions of your fellow classmates
- Exhibit a positive attitude throughout all course activities
- Strive for personal growth and development
- Provide your full attention to the classroom and its activities

Academic Honesty: From the IPFW Undergraduate Bulletin 2002-2004: "Academic honesty is expected of all students. You are responsible for knowing how to maintain academic honesty and for abstaining from cheating, the appearance of cheating, and permitting or assisting in another's cheating"(p.280).

In this course, "cheating" is defined as:

- Copying, attempting to copy, and/or aiding another in the copying of answers from quizzes or assignments;
- Communicating quiz content to a student who has not yet taken a quiz;
- Forging another student's signature on attendance sign-in sheets;
- Plagiarism in any form