

Faculty Fellow Written Report
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UWYO 3050-01 Student-Athlete Career Preparation

The UWYO 3050 Student-Athlete Career Preparation course was taught in both fall and spring semesters during the 2020-21 academic year. I served as the instructor for both semesters. During the fall semester, I coordinated a "Business Ethics Panel Discussion" featuring two panelists that are in highly volatile fields. Phil Wille a former athletics administrator and currently attorney for the University of Wyoming's General Counsel Department and Frances Reimers, current publicist and marketing expert for professional athletes were able to join us for a great discussion surrounding ethics. We began class by reviewing the Bill Daniels Ethical Principles and then diving into a robust discussion. I asked each panelist to share which ethics principle that they thought most important and why. They then shared some work-related situations when their ethics were compromised, and the outcome of their choice to stay true to their ethics and values. It was a very interesting discussion and the students seemed to enjoy it.

During the spring 2021 semester, I implemented a newly created group project for my class. The students were assigned in groups of two (I only had 6 students in the class overall) and were asked to complete the following:

1. Create a 10-minute presentation and pick a Bill Daniels Ethical Principle to focus on.
2. Discuss the following:
 - a. How can this principle be applied to your role as a student-athlete?
 - b. How can this principle be applied to your role as a citizen of your community?
 - i. You define your community. This can be your local community, member of your cohort in your respective college/major, your community as a minority, etc.
 - c. Create a visual representation of your ethical principle that you can put into action.
 - i. e.g. Instagram post, letter to your Governor, a speech you give as a team captain, a poem, art, authoring a children's book, a lesson plan you'd teach an elementary class, a skit or video, etc.

The class had a lot of fun with this project, and really enjoyed getting to know each other better through this project. There were many personal stories shared and the class did a great job of being transparent and thoughtful in their visual representations. One group shared a poem they wrote about integrity, another group filmed friends from Australia asking why they thought "trust" was an important quality.

Here is an excerpt from one of the students:

"After watching the presentations, I was impressed with both groups. "Integrity" stuck with me a lot because it can relate to being an athlete, being a student, and in life. I say this because "Integrity" shows how we are as a student athlete. We are constantly evaluated and judged based off of our athletic performance. To me, this is how an athlete can become better at their respective sport. How an athlete responds to criticism showcases their "integrity". Also, "integrity" applies to being a student as well. As a student, we have to keep our "academic integrity". Meaning we do not cheat on our homework, quizzes, exams, etc. If not, there could be severe consequences. "Integrity" relates to our everyday life as well because as the presenter mentioned, he lost his wallet and the person who reluctantly found it returned it to him. They did not have to do that, they could have simply stolen it. Another example would be helping a homeless person

out. Really boils down to simple actions in life. Something that I took away from learning about the Bill Daniels Ethical Principles was that while it can apply to our certain situation in college, it really does apply to our everyday lives. As discussed in the presentations, each principle can tie to our respective communities.”

Overall, it was a really rewarding and gratifying project for all involved. I plan to implement this into our classes next year as well.