

Sabbatical Leave Proposal

A. Applicant

Name: Damon Neidlinger
Department: Kinesiology, Athletics & Dance
Type of Leave: Independent Study
Leave Dates: Spring 2019

B. Purpose of Leave

The purpose of my sabbatical leave is to improve my instructional teaching techniques and course content.

C. Leave Objectives

1. Review the most current literature available on practice plan organization.
2. Observe at least two four-year college baseball programs and one major league baseball organization. Integrate new drills and teaching techniques gained from observation into existing practice plans.
3. Observe at least two training sessions of a professional badminton club/organization. I will integrate new teaching techniques and at least three new badminton drills into existing course content.
4. Develop a new fitness routine segment for my body conditioning class and weight training class. This will be accomplished by observing two training sessions at two cross fit/fitness gyms.

D. Narrative

Introduction

This independent study opportunity will enable me to revise my course content, learn new teaching techniques and integrate new teaching methodologies into my existing courses. My observations will give me a new perspective on current teaching methodologies, skills, drills, and techniques.

Objective 1. Prior to my field observations I will research current drills, teaching techniques and practice plans for teaching baseball.

Objective 2. I will observe two four-year collegiate baseball programs and one major league professional baseball organization. My observations will focus on practice organization, communication tools utilized, skill development, mechanical teaching methodologies, and practice efficiency.

I will accomplish this by attending at least two practice sessions at the four-year level and visiting the Milwaukee Brewers spring training in Arizona for at least four days/training sessions.

Objective 3. My observation of at least two professional badminton club training sessions will enable me to add at least three new badminton training drills into my current class teaching structure. I will also gain valuable insight in to new teaching techniques and philosophies that are utilized by professional/competition level badminton teachers/professionals.

Objective 4. I will develop a new fitness routine segment for my body conditioning class and add a new Kettlebell segment of exercises to my weight training classes. I will accomplish this by observing two training sessions at a kettlebell training gym and two training sessions at a cross fit training gym.

E. Evaluation Summary

1. How will the objectives of this sabbatical leave enhance my work performance at college?

As a teaching professional, it is important to stay current and gain new perspectives on the disciplines we teach. Getting an opportunity to observe various teaching professionals that have acquired an elevated level of expertise is an invaluable opportunity. This is a fantastic opportunity that will benefit the college and improve my performance at Santa Rosa JC.

2. How will the objectives of this sabbatical leave benefit students in my discipline?

The students and student-athletes experience in my classes will be enhanced by the integration of new teaching methodologies and improved classroom management/organization techniques. Teaching activities classes in the Kinesiology department requires prerequisite abilities to teach body mechanics and skilled movement techniques. Getting an opportunity to observe current teaching methods and techniques is a great benefit to students I will be teaching in the future.

3. How will the objectives of this sabbatical leave benefit my department?

Kinesiology, Athletics, and Dance instructors periodically share teaching stations and intentional or unintentionally pass on teaching ideas, skills, and techniques. Personally speaking, I have shared a facility/teaching area with a colleague and have observed warm-

up routines and exercise techniques that I have added to my classes. Information is also passed on through the peer to peer evaluation process.

I will provide a report of my findings that will include research in the area of practice plan development. It will include new drills and teaching techniques from my observations as well as review of literature.

5. How does your proposed project address the SRJC Strategic Plan and/or your department's educational plan?

The mission statement of Santa Rosa JC and the Kinesiology, Athletics, & Dance (KAD) department emphasize student learning for transfer through a technical education. My observations will improve my technical knowledge and organizational skills therefore providing a greater student learning experience in my classes.

F. Abstract for Board Proposal Summary

Damon Neidlinger's independent study leave will advance his current levels of knowledge in the areas of practice plan organization, course content, and will enhance mechanical and technical teaching methods. He will observe four year & professional level baseball organizations, a badminton club/organization and two fitness gyms that will enhance his students' learning experience in his classes. His leave will encompass the college and his department's mission statement of preparing students to transfer to the four-year level. This will be accomplished through improving his students' foundation of knowledge and technical abilities in athletics, physical fitness and lifelong wellness.

G. Approval

Applicant Name: Damon Neidlinger
Department/Program Kinesiology, Athletics, & Dance (KAD)

Review and Signature

Department Review

Signature of Department Chair

Date

Sabbatical Leave Committee Review

Signature of Committee Chair

Date

Board of Trustees Review

Action Taken

Date