

Title of the Proposed Research:

Minority College Athletes Experiences at a Predominately White Institution: A Qualitative Study

Principal Investigator or Faculty/Staff Sponsor (name, department, and email):

This person should be a Longwood employee with an @longwood.edu email address and will be designated as the communicating investigator.

Dr. Scott T. Grether, Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice, gretherst@longwood.edu

Co-investigators (names and emails):

Cierra White, Cierra.white@live.longwood.edu

Is this a new proposal or ongoing research?

This is a new proposal.

This is previously approved, ongoing research. Provide the IRB reference number and describe any changes to the approved research.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Is this proposal for secondary research using data obtained from a previously approved project?

No

Yes, provide the IRB reference number for the primary research and indicate whether broad consent was obtained in the primary study.

Click or tap here to enter text.

What is the goal, aim, or purpose of your study? Include a hypothesis statement.

The purpose of this study is to understand minority college students' experiences and perceptions of expectations placed on them by coaches, the university, and their racial community. This study will identify and address the experience of college athletes at predominantly white institutions in Farmville, Virginia. The proposed study will explore the experiences, emotions, and perceptions minority college athletes have about being an athlete of color at a predominantly white institution. This study is important for at least two reasons. One, it will address previous scholarship examining the intersection of athletes of color and patriotism. Throughout history there has been a tradition of athletes of color taking a stand for their political beliefs, such as the raised fists during the 1968 Olympics and the kneeling of Colin Kaepernick during the national anthem in 2016. This study seeks to identify if this scholarship extends to college athletics.. Two, it also explores how athletes of color use their unique position within the university to address politics and social justice. In many aspects, athletes of color

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are providing leadership in addressing difficult conversations of race and ethnicity within the sports world. So, it is beneficial to examine how sports and patriotism have become intertwined and how athletes of color are experiencing and reflecting upon this intersectionality at predominately white institutions. The proposed research study is significant because it will explore how minority college athletes engage with their campus community, their university, and the media.

Are you applying for a waiver of informed consent?

No

Yes, please explain why a waiver of consent is required or appropriate.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Subjects: Describe the subjects, how the subjects are recruited and what safeguards are in place to protect the subjects from any foreseeable risks. Please describe your process for obtaining voluntary, informed consent (e.g., written, online, electronic?) if applicable?

I am going to recruit current student athletes at Longwood University and Hampton Sydney College in Farmville, Virginia. The purpose of the research will be explained to participants when they are being recruited for the study. They will be asked to participate with the provision that they are free to withdraw at any time without penalty. The researcher will reach out to potential respondents through phone or email directly. Also, the researcher will reach out to potential respondents' coaches and the athletic director through phone or email. A research flier will also be posted on Longwood University and Hampden Sydney College with the researcher's contact information for potential participants to reach out via email. Finally, I will invite potential participants through social media websites such as Facebook.com and Instagram.com by posting the attached research flier. It is anticipated that participants will be at no physical, psychological, or emotional risk during any time of the study. Although, the researcher will share resources available to students at their respective university, such as Counseling and Psychological Services at Longwood University and Hampden Sydney College Counseling Services if participants wish to reach out to a counselor to follow-up with any issues that they wish with a licensed, trained therapist. To protect participants' anonymity no identifying information will be produced in the research that could damage the participants current standing as a student athlete. All identifying names and proper nouns will be removed during the interview transcription process.

Will the subjects be deceived in any way?

No

Yes, please explain. Provide debrief materials in the Appendices.

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Will the data be identifiable? *Data may be identifiable through login information, names, audiovisual recordings etc.* No Yes, please explain.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Is a request for broad consent included on the consent form? No Yes**Data Management: *How will consent be obtained, stored, accessed, and secured? How will the data be collected, stored, accessed, and secured? How long will the records be maintained (can be indefinite)?***

Prior to beginning the interview, the researcher will read the attached informed consent statement to the participant and ascertain verbal consent. If the interview is being conducted virtually the signed consent statement will be obtained electronically. Data will be collected at a mutually agreed-upon time and location. After receiving informed consent for participation, the researcher will conduct an in-depth interview using the attached interview guide. As part of the informed consent agreement, I will record the interviews with a digital audio recorder. Audio files will be downloaded from the digital recorder onto a password-protected computer and stored in a folder on the password protected computer. Auto files will be deleted from the password-protected computer once transcriptions of an interview are completed. Additionally, all identifying information such as, names, specific team participants are on, locations, dates, and positions participants play will be removed during the transcription process. Furthermore, I will create pseudonyms to further protect the identity of the participants being interviewed.

Are you collecting any biospecimens? *Biospecimens include blood, saliva, urine etc.* No Yes – Please detail the amount of specimen collected and method of collection. You must complete the Biosafety Proposal

Click or tap here to enter text.

Methods and Procedures: *Describe your methodology in a way that would be replicable.*

The researcher will reach out to potential respondents through phone or email requesting their participation in the study. The researcher will explain the purpose of the study and that the interview could take as little as thirty minutes or as much as two hours. The time it takes to conduct the interview

is contingent upon how open the participant is, topics that arise, and probing questions the researcher asks in response to something the participant said during the interview. Prior to the day of the interview written consent will be obtained. The day of the interview the researcher will reiterate to the participant that they can withdraw from participation during the interview at any time and their choice to be a part of the study is completely voluntary. After receiving informed consent for participation, the researcher will conduct the interview using the attached interview guide. Interviews will be conducted in-person or virtually. If conducted in-person, the researcher will use an audio recording device and if conducted virtually the researcher will use zoom to record the interview. The interview will be recorded using the most appropriate technology for the setting. The researcher will transcribe the interview within two weeks of conducting the interview and then immediately delete the recording. Pseudonyms will be transcribed in the interview, to replace any identifying information such as the names of people and places. The researcher understands that information regarding the name of their participant cannot be disclosed.

Data Analysis and Presentation: *Describe the data you are analyzing and how the data will be presented.*

The goal for this study is to interview eight to ten college athletes, half identifying as women and half identifying as men. I aim to recruit athletes at Longwood University and Hampden Sydney College. Participants can learn about the proposed study through word of mouth, flyers, and different online venues, such as Instagram.com and Facebook.com. When necessary, I will secure permission to post flyers from the necessary campus officials. Participants will be selected using a non-probability sampling method called “purposive sampling.” Purposive sampling involves the researcher using their knowledge to select a sample that is most useful to the purpose of the research. Participants for my study must be 18 years old or older, a student of color, and a collegiate athlete. These are essential criteria for the study because they address the larger research questions guiding this study. Participants will contact me via email or social media if interested in participating in my study. Once contacted, if the participant meets the criteria for the study, the researcher will schedule a time and, when appropriate, location for the interview to occur which is convenient for the participant. Potential sites can include a secluded area in a public venue, a public library, and or study room on Longwood’s campus. At the mutually agreed-upon time and location, the researcher will review the consent form, answer any questions, and reiterate that the participant can leave the study at any point. The researcher will then conduct an in-depth interview either face-to-face or via zoom. The interview is expected to last anywhere between thirty minutes to two hours. As part of the consent form, I will record the interview with a digital audio recorder, when necessary, the interview will be recorded using zoom. Once the interview is completed, the researcher will thank the participant for their involvement in this research study. After the initial interview is completed and transcribed the researcher will begin coding the transcribed interview. After analyzing the codes, the researcher will begin to identify recurring themes found in the study. These recurring themes in the research will be analyzed and published in a paper and presented at a research conference.

Appendices:

Please include the following appendices in the order shown:

- Any subject recruitment materials (posters, flyers, emails, social media postings etc.)
- Informed consent materials (if applicable)
 - For e-consent provide a link/screenshots/copy and paste.
 - If using e-consent, include the consent document that will be provided to subjects after they agree to participate. This document may be emailed to the subject or provided in hard copy and may contain the required elements of informed consent in a different format.
- Survey/interview instruments (list of questions or accessible link to online survey materials; if applicable)
- Any debriefing materials if deception is part of the study
- CITI Certificates for each of the named investigators
- Any published research that supports your methodology (optional)

All documents should be merged into a single PDF file and submitted to IRB@longwood.edu by the principal investigator, with co-investigators copied on the email. This electronic communication will be accepted as an indication that all the named investigator(s) agree that the information provided to the committee is accurate and true to the best knowledge of the researcher(s), and that the researcher(s) have conformed to the above guidelines to the best abilities of the researcher(s).

Proposals that do not contain the required material or supporting documents will be returned to the Principal Investigator.