

Paper Presentation II : Rehabilitation and Children

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Service Learning as General Education: A Case Study of a Teaching-Led Research on Para-Athletes

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This paper presents a case study of teaching-led research on The Portrait of Disability Sport and Disabled Athletes by the Hong Kong Chinese Media based on a General Education Capstone (GCAP) Service Leadership Education (SLE) course. The GCAP SLE course concerned is about sports, journalism and disability-related issues. It has a tight teaching schedule, comprising theory, activity-based learning such as wheelchair basketball activities and related lecture, etc. As the course is not designed for teaching-led research, adjusting the contents and curriculum to include teaching-led research could be very challenging. In view of this, this paper demonstrates how teaching-led research can be planned, incorporated and conducted within a GCAP SLE course. The role of students in data collection, the challenges faced by instructors and reflections from instructors on teaching and learning are illustrated.

The two instructors involved are of the view that teaching-led research will further help GCAP students to apply service leadership concepts to a global or societal problem. It is because, through the entire research process, students can be exposed to first-hand information, raw data, as well as being enlightened to find innovative solutions to such problems. It is concluded that GCAP instructors should conduct more research with students, but extra resources should be added to facilitate the same.

KEY WORDS

Service Learning, General Education, Teaching-led Research, Disabled Sports, Para-athletes