

Development, Implementation, and Evaluation of the “Orientation for International Student Athletes” (OISA)

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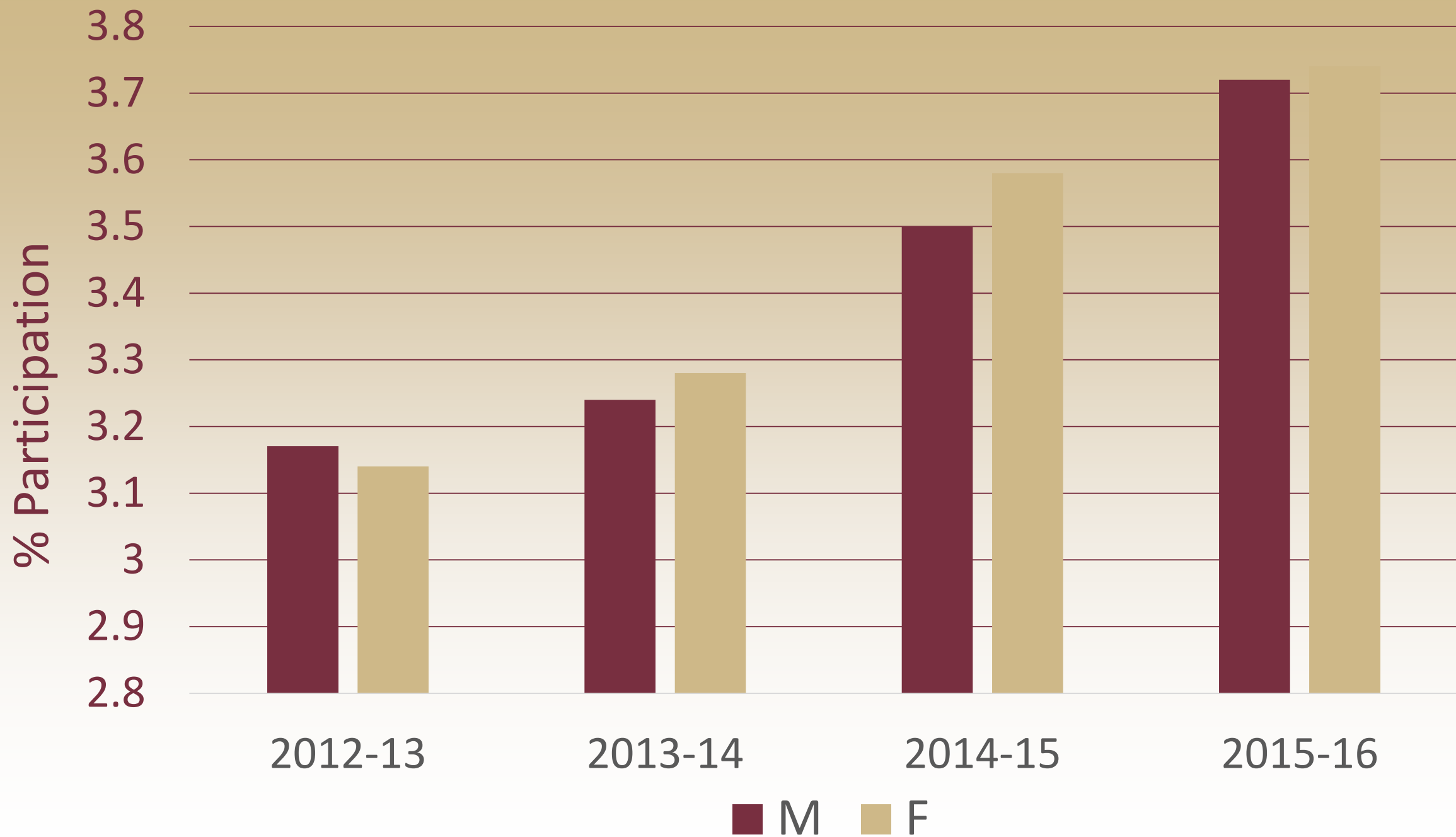
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Purpose

- 19,617 international student-athletes in the NCAA, rising annually.
- Little support provided for international student-athletes (Baghurst et al., 2018).
- Many struggle to assimilate into a new culture, fit into a new sports program, and struggle academically (Lee & Opio, 2011).
- The primary purpose of this project was to develop, implement, and then evaluate an entry-level academic course specifically designed to educate and aid incoming international student-athletes.



The Process

- Focus group with 6 international student-athletes
- Focus group with 3 coaches of international student-athletes
- Three-person analysis of focus groups
- Interviews with 4 international student-athletes
- Development of the 3-credit hour OISA class at OSU
- 9 international student-athletes enrolled (Kenya, Czech Republic, Japan, Mexico, Taiwan, Brazil, Kazakhstan, Belarus) from 5 teams
- Full semester, meeting twice weekly
- Trip to a local elementary school included

General Themes of Focus

Language,
Communication,
& Comprehension

Culture,
Integration, and
Assimilation

Academic/Athletic
Rules, Regulations,
& Policies

Evaluation

- 100% found the class very valuable and recommended it as important for international student-athletes to take
- 7 of 9 recommended it for **all** student-athletes (2 said maybe)



What Did You Learn?

- “Knowledge about the American culture and not to be shy even if we are international students.”
- “About plagiarism, NCAA rules, and APA, MLA and Chicago style.”
- “How to act being a student, I think.”
- “The most important thing that I learned from this class is how important academic integrity is.”
- “Plagiarism. How to cite citation correctly.”

Why is this Class Important?

- “That through this class they would be able to know more about college rules and advantages to succeed in college.”
- “everyone need help from the beginning [sic] an this class is perfect for that.”
- “I would say in this class you can learn more basic college things which is important because every country's school rule is different, so I think if you can know all the rules in the U.S. college it only going to help you go through this 4 years easier.”

How Has This Class Changed You?

- “Be more open minded.”
- “I am not scared now about my language and always trying to stay in conversation.”
- “Help you with you start in school.”
- “It has enabled me gain confidence to talk to professor or Instructors to seek for more understanding.”
- “Understand more U.S. college's rules.”
- “And I know how to use the resourcs [sic] of Academic Center”

Shareable Outcomes

- OSU syllabus
- 21 lesson plans for the course
- Handouts/presentation slides/resources for each lesson plan
- Data from focus groups and interviews (analyzed, but not yet published)



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