



HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY®

Sports Journalism and Broadcasting Institute

Continuing Education

Rick Risetto Instructor Testimonial

Sportscasting all starts with a dream. When you're younger, you want to be the athletes on the field, making the game-winning shot, hitting the game-winning home run, scoring the game-winning goal. Moments like that in sports are timeless; it's when time stops and the roar of the crowd goes from as loud as it can be to a deaf whisper. In sports, all athletes live for moments like this. But there's another part to it that lends so much drama and such a deeper meaning to these moments; a part that makes the moments turn into unforgettable memories. That's where sportscasters and broadcasters come into the fold and make their mark.

You may ask yourself now what this has to do with Hofstra's summer sports broadcasting camps, and in particular the "Intermediate Sportscasting for Teens" camp. Well, the answer is simple. Nowadays, more and more high schools are investing time and money to allow their students to develop the dream, the drive and the passion for broadcasting sports. The world of journalism is ever-changing and constantly becoming a career path chosen by those who feel they have the gift to dispense information to the world. The beauty of journalism, however, is that there is more to the game than just calling the action on the field. There is a deeper, more synthetic value to journalism and to sports journalism as a whole. You see, sports journalism is not just about the box score of a game; sports journalism is also the compelling stories about players fighting adversity, fans who swear undying loyalty to their teams through thick and thin, moments that change the course of history if only for one single, solitary blip in time.

The "Intermediate Sportscasting for Teens" camp run by Hofstra University's Continuing Education program is the best place to go if you are serious about becoming a sports broadcaster and if you have the work ethic and drive to make your dream a reality. As a Hofstra alum and someone who has taken part in the multitude of sports broadcasting camps offered, I can tell you from experience that there is no greater way to get involved than by learning from the best in the business. The beauty of the camp is also in the grunt work that you will be doing; shooting video, working on edits, developing good scriptwriting capabilities and establishing an on-camera presence to remember. It allows you to develop a deeper appreciation for how we journalists do our work, especially if your first job out of college is in a small market where you are pitching your own story, shooting your own video, editing your own sound, and voicing over the piece itself...all on a deadline to make it into tonight's newscast. You might even find you're a better videographer or video editor than you thought you were at first.

In a quote from LeVar Burton, "As long as we are engaged in storytelling that moves the culture forward, it doesn't matter what format it is." Sports storytelling is one of the greatest gifts that you as a journalist can take with you into and out of the career. The greatest minds in our generation are the greatest storytellers as well. And by taking the "Intermediate Sportscasting for Teens" camp at Hofstra University, you and your children will be setting yourselves up to become the storytellers that will lead future generations.