



FIFPro Online Academy

Many professional footballers would like to combine their active football career with education. But where can you find an educational programme which will fit in with your active career? The FIFPro Online Academy is the answer.

Traditional full time educational programmes simply cannot be combined with a professional football career, because you – the player – have to deal with training camps, away matches, games abroad and even injuries. Sometimes you have free time to study during the day, and sometimes you would like to study at night.

A professional footballer needs flexibility. The FIFPro Online Academy offers you that flexibility.

The FIFPro Online Academy is an full time educational programme specifically developed for professional footballers (and other athletes) who want to study alongside their football career. FIFPro – the World Players' Union and the University College of Northern Denmark (UCN) jointly developed this programme.

Lessons are conducted by teachers at the UCN campus and are recorded and available on the dedicated Online Academy website. This provides you with the flexibility you need as a professional football player, enabling you to watch the online lessons when it suits your training and match schedule. You will also be assigned a personal mentor, who will assist you and closely monitor your progress throughout the FIFPro Online Academy.

Graduates of the FIFPro Online Academy receive a BA-degree in Sport Management.*

*The programme consists of two parts: a two-year AP programme in Service, Hospitality & Tourism Management with a Sport & Event specialization (4 semesters) followed by a 1½ year top-up BA programme in Sport Management (3 semesters).

All you need are a laptop with an internet connection, a headset and a webcam to study at the FIFPro Online Academy

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FIFPro Online Academy



Jon Inge Høiland (Norway)

"I have been a professional footballer for 20 years and I played 25 times for the Norwegian national team."

"Before I started studying at the FIFPro Online Academy, I thought it would be the right education to become a sports director at a club. But the programme offers so much more. It could also be called business management, because it takes a look at many aspects of business management as well as sports management, such as economics, sports law, marketing, event management."



Kim Eirik Deinoff (Norway)

"I have experienced all three professional levels in Norway and I have noticed the different ways clubs were managed, some better than others. That is why I signed up for the FIFPro Online Academy. This study offers you an inside look at what happens in this business. Now I hope to become successful as a business man or club director."

Chrysostomos Kalos (Cyprus)

"What makes the FIFPro Online Academy special is that the course is offered online, so you can study at any time of the week. You can choose on which day you want to study and at which hour, by day or by night."



Studying *Sport Management* online

10 Facts

- 1 Graduates of the FIFPro Online Academy receive a BA-degree in Sport Management.
- 2 The programme consists of a two-year AP programme in Service, Hospitality & Tourism Management with a Sport & Event specialization (semester 1 to 4) followed by a 1½ year top-up BA programme in Sport Management (semester 5 to 7).
- 3 Flexibility is built into the programme to help you balance your sports career and studies (e.g. when planning exams in the exam periods). In exceptional circumstances additional flexibility can be granted.
- 4 The courses and subjects are related to the sport industry and include key areas like marketing, management, economics, methodology, law, communications, event planning, strategy etc.
- 5 All students have to complete an internship in semester 3 and 7 (both 13 weeks). Maybe your club could give you the opportunity to do your internship there.
- 6 Each student will have its own mentor who will closely monitor the study progress and could also deliver extra motivation. You can always contact your mentor.
- 7 Throughout the programme you will work closely together with fellow students in online study groups.
- 8 All courses are in English. You will have to pass a test to prove that your understanding of English is sufficient.
- 9 To see if your preliminary training meets the requirements to start the Sport Management programme, please contact your union.
- 10 Exams will be taken online (e.g. using Skype or virtual classroom).

Costs

The entrance fee is kept to a minimum: a € 300 fee is required to enroll in the FIFPro Online Academy. The costs for books will be around € 200 per semester (except for semester 3 and 7 when you do your internship).



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You can subscribe at your union or contact FIFPro



Shane Birtles (England)

"Studying at the FIFPro Online Academy didn't interfere with my other commitments. I could still play, I even started working at the PFA, yet I was still able to do a fulltime degree programme."

"It is a very difficult course. You have to put a lot of hours in it. You have to be committed, motivated. Each week I spent around 16 hours on learning: watching the lectures online, doing the assignments, doing the projects or exams. But if you are committed to it, you should definitely be able to keep up with the workload."



Rasmus Koch Nielsen (Denmark)

"I was studying at another educational programme, when I realized that I could not combine my football career with that study. When I was informed about the FIFPro Online Academy, I decided that this was the right option for me. It offered me the flexibility I was looking for."

Morten Koch Nielsen (Denmark)

"Four years ago, I had a very bad knee injury that made me think about my future plans. To prepare myself for life after my football career, I chose to sign up for the FIFPro Online Academy. Recently I had to stop my football career due to injuries. Because of that this study has become even more important to me. Now I have graduated and I am ready for real life."

