

# EXTRA CREDIT

## A SUMMER & WINTER SESSIONS PODCAST

### Episode 5 Transcript

#### **00:00:02 Introduction**

Welcome to Extra Credit, hosted by the Rutgers University Office of Summer and Winter Sessions. Listen to hear from students as they share their experiences at Rutgers and some tips on how to navigate a condensed semester. Also gain the perspective of professors and learn more about the courses they teach.

#### **00:00:18 Kylie**

So, hi Erica.

#### **00:00:19 Erica Goldstein**

Hi Kylie.

#### **00:00:19 Kylie**

Thanks for joining. Do you want to introduce yourself? Like tell us your major and all that?

#### **00:00:25 Erica Goldstein**

Yeah, sure so.

#### **00:00:26 Erica Goldstein**

So, my name is Erica. I'm a senior graduating this semester and I'm a double major in marketing and art history.

#### **00:00:33 Kylie**

That's an interesting combination.

#### **00:00:34 Erica Goldstein**

I think so.

#### **00:00:35 Kylie**

I kind of like it, like I feel like it's like marketing and PR, like marketing and like business. Or you know, like it's in that realm.

#### **00:00:42 Kylie**

But I like that yours is like marketing and then something like really creative and like, it's interesting, you know.

**00:00:50 Kylie**

So can you tell me what how you came to that, like, combo?

**00:00:54 Erica Goldstein**

Yeah, totally so.

**00:00:58 Erica Goldstein**

So, I was- I entered Rutgers as a Business School student and I declared my marketing major pretty early on or knew I wanted to be marketing major.

**00:01:09 Erica Goldstein**

But uhm, I didn't really see myself in a marketing role in more of a corporate sense. And I meanwhile had this, um, Art History minor.

**00:01:20 Erica Goldstein**

And I decided that that was really where my passions lied, was a combination of the two. So, I declared the double major and it's a really nice balance of the Business School classes that are more math based and kind of those hard skills versus art history where it's really based on intuition and culture and interpreting and analyzing objects from history and from the present.

**00:01:47 Erica Goldstein**

So, with the combination of marketing and Art History... I also have a DCIM minor, I'm looking to go into the museum field and um, and run museums like a business, but do it about a subject that I'm really passionate about.

**00:02:05 Kylie**

That's so cool.

**00:02:08 Erica Goldstein**

Thank you, yeah.

**00:02:09 Kylie**

Look at you - woman on a mission.

**00:02:11 Erica Goldstein**

Yeah, that's what I'm trying to do.

**00:02:16 Kylie**

That's awesome though, so do you- have you interned at like museums and stuff while in college?

**00:02:23 Erica Goldstein**

Yeah, so I kind of made this pivot towards art history a little bit late in my career, which is why summer session was so helpful for me 'cause it helped me make up some extra courses that I needed to fill. But I've interned at a couple remote art galleries this year, and I've done some marketing internships too as well, both remote and in person.

**00:02:51 Kylie**

Awesome, awesome. So, what was different about your summer session courses than like the spring and fall would you say?

**00:02:59 Erica Goldstein**

Well, I took summer session courses. I took three courses in one summer session- or in one summer- two in one session, one in the other session. And they are definitely a lot more fast paced than the fall or spring classes.

**00:03:15 Erica Goldstein**

I would also say the classes are a lot smaller so it's a lot easier to get your questions answered faster. And it's also a lot more laid back because there's not...

**00:03:25 Erica Goldstein**

Like I'm in the Business School and during the semester there's so many classes going on at one time, but in the summer there's only so few courses that are offered in the summer, so it's a lot more of a relaxed atmosphere in terms of the environment, because there are fewer people, but it's a lot more, a lot less relaxed in terms of it being more fast paced.

**00:03:44 Kylie**

Would it- Do you think it's like too fast paced at a point? Or do you think it's just like "OK", like you're just like, very much like rolling, you know, like with the days... like it's like, "OK, one chapter down" next day, second chapter down or do you say like you're like drowning in the work?

**00:04:02 Erica Goldstein**

I think that it is a lot more fast paced in the sense that it's summer, so the weather is nice out and you want to go outside so your work feels longer rather than during a fall or spring semester where everyone else is also doing their homework. But during a summer session it's all homework to do, but all my friends are going to the beach, that kind of thing.

**00:04:25 Erica Goldstein**

So, I would say that the fast paced-ness of the class is a lot more noticeable because it is not a traditional semester, but it's manageable.

**00:04:38 Kylie**

So, what would you recommend to a student who wants to take a summer session course? Like what might help them when they take their course in the summer?

**00:04:48 Erica Goldstein**

I would definitely recommend taking a course with a friend, and I took 3 courses over at summer session and 2 of them I was actually enrolled in with my roommate so it was good because we could, you know, talk about assignments together and go to class together.

**00:05:07 Erica Goldstein**

Uhm, I would also recommend to students to take courses that they- that would normally take up a lot of time in the normal semester during the summer session so that they can get it out of the way.

**00:05:23 Kylie**

Yeah, I know a lot of students who actually do that, you know, just because they have that dedicated time to just focus on that one class, and so it's like "OK, this is like, this is the class that I'm thinking about- only thinking about for the next like six weeks - done."

**00:05:41 Kylie**

And then- you have the following semester, then like you know then you don't have this like crushing course in the fall or spring, so then they can, you know, like more so enjoy their school time and not be drowning in that.

**00:05:55 Erica Goldstein**

Right, I took, um, I took managerial accounting during my summer session, which is one of the business school's notoriously hardest classes, so I was really- it was really difficult while I was in it, but I could not imagine doing that during a semester with all my other work, so I was really happy that I got that out of the way.

**00:06:14 Erica Goldstein**

And the professors are usually- summer session courses are offered for classes that people don't do too well in during the actual semester, so they can retake it. So, professors are a lot more considerate of that fact.

**00:06:27 Kylie**

Did you take any extracurricular activities like did you participate? Did you participate in any extracurricular activities while during the summer session?

**00:06:37 Kylie**

So the summer session we always have, like events going on: game nights, creative stuff, speaking events. Did you have a time to participate in any of those?

**00:06:48 Erica Goldstein**

Yes, so I, um, I actually went with summer session to a Broadway show, which was very fun. We went and saw Book of Mormon. And uhm, that was great.

**00:07:03 Erica Goldstein**

I went to- I stopped by a few of the summer session barbecues that they had at the student center, at the College Ave Student Center, which was nice. Just to see when I was walking home from class. And the food is fantastic.

**00:07:19 Erica Goldstein**

What else did I do? Oh, I went kayaking with summer session, which was very, very fun as well.

**00:07:31 Kylie**

I forgot that we hosted all those events, whoops.

**00:07:33 Erica Goldstein**

Mhmm. Uh, I know it was a long time ago... it was like two years ago, at this point.

**00:07:37 Kylie**

I know. Alright.

**00:07:40 Erica Goldstein**

Life comes at you fast.

**00:07:42 Kylie**

Really, I missed that barbecue though.

**00:07:45 Erica Goldstein**

Yeah, it was so good.

**00:07:47 Kylie**

Those were fun. All right, so well, now that everything is remote, you know. So like we, we can't necessarily do like the barbeque and stuff like that.

**00:07:59 Kylie**

We mostly do like at home, you know, like virtual events, and obviously you've been taking courses virtually for some time now. What would you say is the biggest obstacle to overcome with online learning?

**00:08:17 Erica Goldstein**

Uhm, I would say the biggest obstacle to online learning is not separated, not being able to separate your work in school from your personal life because a lot of the times the same desk that I'm doing my homework at or doing my classes at is the same as in the same bedroom that I'm sleeping at and in the same house that I'm hanging out with my friends on weekends.

**00:08:41 Erica Goldstein**

So it's hard to separate the mindset of school versus like, when you're on versus when you're off. It's the biggest challenge of remote work, I think.

**00:08:52 Kylie**

Yeah, I can see that like there's no divide, like you would go to a building to learn. That's obviously different from like the building that you hung out in, that you ate in, that you-

**00:09:01 Erica Goldstein**

Yeah, exactly, everything is now in one place.

**00:09:03 Kylie**

-You know, relaxed in.

**00:09:05 Erica Goldstein**

Now it's where I hang out, where I do school, where I do work, where I eat, where I work out, where I- yeah, everything.

**00:09:16 Kylie**

Yeah, I get that, I get that.

**00:09:19 Kylie**

So, so do you have any successful strategies to kind of like that help you through that? Maybe like one room?

**00:09:29 Kylie**

Like obviously, you like eat in the kitchen or you know like whatever and then like you would hang out in the living room. So, like it's in the same house but it's like-

**00:09:43 Erica Goldstein**

Sometimes my roommates and I will take our classes in each other's room, so it's a different- It's like a change of environment like, once that door is closed, you could be anywhere so that I found to be helpful or going to a friend's house to do class is good, but obviously it is contingent on your bubble.

**00:10:06 Kylie**

Walking helps me, running now yeah, because like I will go on like a mile or so walk with my dog like every day after work, and it's just like- it's so nice just to like get out, you know? Like I'm- like I'm in my neighborhood but you know like sometimes instead of going left I'll go right just like switch it up.

**00:10:26 Kylie**

You know, and so I'm like I'm seeing the pretty much I'm seeing like the same stuff, like nothing really changing in my neighborhood. But it's, you know, it's a way for me to kind of just like, my mind is like wanders off like I listen to music or a podcast or something and then I'm not thinking about like dinner, or you know like laundry or work or you know, like whatever is in that realm.

**00:10:53 Kylie**

I'm just thinking of "Oh no, there's a bunny," like, my dog better not go after it, right? Stuff like that so.

**00:11:00 Erica Goldstein**

Yeah, walking is definitely helpful, I agree.

**00:11:03 Kylie**

In general, overall, what has been your biggest takeaway from summer session?

**00:11:09 Erica Goldstein**

I would say that ultimately Rutgers has, um, Rutgers is equipped to help you and has the resources in place to help you and, um, that's their alternate goal is just to get you through and get your degree so everyone- nobody's out to get you. They want to help you.

**00:11:35 Outro**

Thanks for listening and we'll catch you next time on Extra Credit.