

**Menlo College Department of Athletics
Mission, Vision, and Goals**

MISSION STATEMENT

Revised 8/29/08

The mission of the Department of Athletics is to sponsor a broad-based athletic program, using the avenue of competitive sport and intramurals to complement and enhance the educational and co-curricular experience of each student-athlete. Furthermore, the Department of Athletics is committed to the fair and equitable treatment of men and women, and to maintaining and supporting diversity among its staff and student-athletes. The Department of Athletics is committed to the NCAA DIII philosophy of encouraging balance in the life of a student-athlete, allowing time for participation in competitive sport, supporting involvement in leadership activities on campus, and striving for a high level of achievement in all academic endeavors.

How does athletics complement the educational experience?

Athletics at Menlo College occupies a unique position in that over 40% of the students participate in sports. It is important, therefore, that coaches use their influence as teachers and mentors in a manner that supports and reinforces a learning community. The Learning Community at Menlo College strives to link academics, athletics and student life in a seamless learning environment, by creating opportunities for collaborative and active learning. The athletic experience – only one component of a student’s development at Menlo – can be used to improve learning outcomes, reinforce life lessons, develop character, help student-athletes think critically, and help teach goal setting within a diverse team atmosphere. Below are some of the life skills stressed by the Menlo College coaching staff, which complement academic learning objectives.

1. Communication Skills
2. Teamwork
3. Discipline
4. Preparation
5. Problem Solving
6. Adaptive / Reactive Behavior
7. Ethics / Integrity

VISION STATEMENT

The Department of Athletics strives to build quality athletic programs, maintain a talented and driven coaching staff, and recruit student-athletes who display leadership skills, strong character, a commitment to academics, and a high level of athletic skill. The Department of Athletics seeks to be a source of pride for the College and the surrounding community. In doing so, the Department of Athletics strives to successfully compete at the highest level of NCAA Division III and NAIA athletics.

GOALS OF MENLO COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS

1. Ensure that all student-athletes are provided with opportunities and support to achieve their academic and athletic goals;
2. Provide the best possible environment for each student-athlete to compete to the fullest extent of his or her capabilities;
3. Establish support systems, which will enable student-athletes to develop into well rounded, responsible and mature individuals;
4. Encourage student-athletes to assume leadership roles on campus and in the community.