

EXTRA CREDIT

A SUMMER & WINTER SESSIONS PODCAST

Episode 14 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

Hi Kyle, thanks for joining us today. If, for anyone who doesn't know, Kyle works with us in the Office of Summer and Winter Session, so Kyle can you introduce yourself to us? Tell-

00:00:33 Kyle Canete

I'm Kyle Canete. I graduated from Rutgers University in May of 2019 and I am currently the research specialist for the Office of Summer and Winter sessions. Like, you could also call me a data analyst too at the same time.

00:00:52 Kyle Canete

And yeah, after graduating from Rutgers, I spent, I spent a quick while working in the corporate world and then once this opportunity came up, I- I didn't hesitate to hop back into higher education. Um, learned a lot of good things in the corporate world, but nothing beats you know, the fulfillment of working in higher education.

00:01:23 Kyle Canete

Um, just the fact that you know the work you do is very relatable, especially from a recent grad and higher education is just like something that morally and fulfilling wise, you know, is something that would make your work valuable, which was something I was missing in the corporate world, so I'm really happy to be back.

00:01:45 Kylie

That's awesome, I'm glad that you're finding fulfillment here.

00:01:52 Kylie

It, it can be hard in the corporate world, you know, but I don't know it can- it depends on the company, I feel.

00:02:00 Kyle Canete

Yeah, 100%.

00:02:02 Kylie

Yeah. So, what was your major for your undergrad?

00:02:07 Kyle Canete

Uh, my major was in business analytics and information technology. Uh, my previous- like when I transferred into Rutgers, I came in as an accounting student. Maybe I lasted one semester as an accounting major and then switched to BAIT, which is like, Business, Analytics, and Information Technology and like um yeah, I don't regret it. You know I, I like what I do, I like what I learned. I met some great people, learned from like great professors.

00:02:40 Kyle Canete

And here I am, like making use of my degree, and um... yeah.

00:02:46 Kylie

Always a positive to make use of your degree, always great.

00:02:48 Kyle Canete

Yeah, 100 percent, 100 percent.

00:02:51 Kylie

So, like what does a business analyst do?

00:02:56 Kyle Canete

There's two I would say, at least for me, 'cause that was my title in the corporate world, "Business Analyst."

00:03:07 Kyle Canete

What we do is basically we are the middleman between a software/tech team that builds software, that builds whatever the product is for the company, and the end users or the stakeholders, of that software/product, we're the middleman. We gather their requirements from the stakeholders, and then we turn it into a language that, you know, software- that software developers understand.

00:03:47 Kyle Canete

And then they do their work. They build it based on what we give them and then, uh, we show it back to the stakeholders. Get feedback, if there is feedback, we go back to the devs and then just a lot of back and forth.

00:04:04 Kyle Canete

It's not a technical role at all, at least in my experience. It's more of people skills, more of learning how to talk, tech, learning how to talk business at the same time between two different people and um-

00:04:20 Kyle Canete

It was fun. It was fun, a lot of meetings, *a lot* of meetings, a lot of talking, a lot of interacting with people, a lot of studying too, like you have to know your product to be able to talk about it to stakeholders and to software developers.

00:04:37 Kyle Canete

And then a lot of, uhm, time management 'cause like sometimes you can be assigned to one product. Sometimes you can be assigned to 3, 4, or 5 at the same time.

00:04:50 Kylie

I can't imagine the meetings. I really can't like that-

00:04:55 Kyle Canete

It's a lot of meetings, a lot of back forth, a lot of emails.

00:04:56 Kylie

And yeah, but I mean like emailing, right? That's like, the backbone of like, work. You know, like you know like big whatever job or whatever out of college. But I feel like, the meetings, like I see so many memes about meetings like- like this could have been an email. You know what I'm saying? Like there's literally notebooks and like T shirts with like these like memes about meetings are in.

00:05:26 Kylie

So yeah, like you can be, I feel like you- there's a, there's like you have to understand that there's never going to be an end to your emails, but like you can easily become overloaded with meetings sometimes.

00:05:39 Kylie

Yeah so.

00:05:39 Kyle Canete

Yeah, 100% and like.

00:05:42 Kyle Canete

Keep- keeping like note taking-

00:05:44 Kylie

Oh yeah.

00:05:45 Kyle Canete

Like it's huge because one of the- one of the things that you don't want to do is forget something from a meeting that like propels you to either start another meeting or start like another email chain out of all the other emails that you go through, out of all the like meetings that you have on your schedule. And like taking good notes was huge.

00:06:11 Kyle Canete

Like, especially with hour long meetings.

00:06:15 Kylie

It's a lot.

00:06:16 Kyle Canete

And you need to take all of the information that the stakeholders give you, because if you miss something.

00:06:26 Kyle Canete

And you forget to tell it to the devs like it could, you know, hold you back a bit.

00:06:30 Kylie

Yeah yeah, I have- like meetings that I have now, I'll like create basically an outline like in a Word document and then I can just like go up and down. You know, like depending on where the conversation in the meeting goes.

00:06:44 Kylie

OK so then, when did you start? So, I know you started as an accounting major at Rutgers, but did you start at Rutgers as a freshman? Or did you transfer in?

00:06:53 Kyle Canete

I transferred in from community college. It's actually funny.

00:07:00 Kyle Canete

When I was a senior in high school, I wasn't really thinking about college, so even from high school I couldn't like even get into Rutgers.

00:07:07 Kyle Canete

So, I chose the community college route. I was a business admin, so basically, they had a program that, you know, is designed for you to transfer. So, I wasn't an accounting major.

00:07:21 Kyle Canete

They had an accounting program.

00:07:23 Kyle Canete

But you know, ultimately, I wanted to transfer somewhere... specifically, Rutgers, like Rutgers, is what I was eyeing from the beginning.

00:07:33 Kyle Canete

Like even when I started at community because you know I was an accounting major and then doing a lot of research, you know, seeing how great the Business School is, how prestigious it is in a way, in New Jersey, and I think that was very attractive to me as a student.

00:07:52 Kylie

Yeah, yeah it is.

00:07:54 Kyle Canete

And um, I was just dead set on Rutgers.

00:08:00 Kyle Canete

I, like, from the beginning, I was working towards transferring to Rutgers, looking at their requirements, making sure I was like above what they required. And then ultimately, I was able to get in and I have no regrets.

00:08:15 Kylie

Awesome, so then, when you were talking about what a business analyst does, you said that that was like what you did in your corporate job.

00:08:24 Kylie

So, I mean it sounded very like rewarding, and I mean obviously you know it came with its ups and downs.

00:08:34 Kylie

Big down being all the meetings, but what was the biggest reason that you chose to come back to Rutgers from that?

00:08:43 Kyle Canete

Uhm, the biggest reason? I have two reasons. One, I like data. I like working with data. I like being into the weeds of things and into a more technical role.

00:08:54 Kyle Canete

That's kind of what I wanted, which was something you know, my previous roles didn't provide. It was more just communicating rather than technical.

00:09:05 Kyle Canete

And you know... like I said earlier, the fulfillment of working within a higher education, education setting. Because one thing that you kind of lose in the corporate world, depending on the company, is just being driven by what you, what you do, or ultimately like the mission of what you're doing and back in-

00:09:30 Kyle Canete

You know, when I was taking classes on that, I would say, "Oh yeah, mission statement. Yeah, whatever. Whatever, like it's whatever." But then getting into it, getting into like the workforce full time like that like you start to realize how much that actually like impacts and employee impacts yourself.

00:09:52 Kyle Canete

And just being-

00:09:52 Kylie

100%.

00:09:56 Kyle Canete

...within the higher education setting, um, I find huge fulfillment on what I do and also like the convenience of it, is that down the line in my life I do wanna end up going the teaching route.

00:10:08 Kylie

Ooooooh.

00:10:08 Kyle Canete

Like that's a huge like, that's a huge goal of mine, like that's something-

00:10:13 Kylie

You'd be such a good teacher like you're so personable-

00:10:16 Kyle Canete

I, I hope so.

00:10:18 Kylie

You're so personable, oh my goodness.

00:10:21 Kyle Canete

Yeah, because like one thing I want to do, like one thing. The reason why I wanted to be a teacher, I was inspired by one of my high school teachers. Uhm, she's the reason why I decided to do accounting from the beginning and I'm just like the thing about her is, how could you make such a boring subject so fun?

00:10:41 Kylie

That's impressive.

00:10:42 Kyle Canete

And I'm just like...

00:10:44 Kyle Canete

I'm just like, how could you compel me to go to college back there, you know. And like, I'm just like you know I want to do that too. I wanna, you know, teach data as well as business.

00:10:58 Kyle Canete

Like the boring stuff, but make it fun because, you know, this is a great industry that was lacking, at least when I was in high school in the curriculum.

00:11:10 Kyle Canete

And it's just like, and also the fact that you want to spread your knowledge to the next generation and everything.

00:11:16 Kylie

Yeah, of course.

00:11:17 Kyle Canete

And like, you want to inspire people as well, inspire students. Basically, I want to inspire students the way I was inspired back then.

00:11:27 Kyle Canete

And that's why, like, I really want to end up teaching down the line. You know, after I gain like heavy experience within the industry that I could pass down. But ultimately, my end goal is to teach.

00:11:39 Kyle Canete

And I feel like that's one of the major reasons why I came back to Rutgers. 'cause being in a higher education setting, I feel like would be a good start.

00:11:48 Kylie

Absolutely yeah. Well, I never knew that you wanted to teach. That's so interesting.

00:11:53 Kyle Canete

No, yeah, like it's, it's something in the back of my mind, like one of the end goals for me.

00:11:58 Kylie

Yeah, do you want to teach at a high school level? You want to teach at a college level?

00:12:03 Kyle Canete

You see, that's the thing. I was inspired in high school.

00:12:07 Kylie

Right?

00:12:08 Kyle Canete

But I don't know if I could deal with myself in high school.

00:12:13 Kylie

Valid.

00:12:14 Kyle Canete

But I just feel like, you know, when it comes to teaching and all that like, whether high school or college. I just feel like for me, I would lean towards high school, even though I do want to end up teaching like in college as well, like being a professor.

00:12:35 Kyle Canete

But the thing with the high school is that as a high school student, you're still developing.

00:12:43 Kyle Canete

Like you're not fully in adult yet, you're still trying to find out what you like and everything. And even in college at the same time too. But like, there's a lot of things.

00:12:53 Kylie

It's on like a different level in college.

00:12:55 Kyle Canete

Yeah, at least in college like you have an idea, whereas in high school, you know, you have no idea, like I didn't. And it's just like, I feel like that's one of the best phases or a good phase for you to really make your mark and to inspire like the next generation when they're like developing like that in high school.

00:13:18 Kyle Canete

And that's why I'm leaning towards high school a bit.

00:13:20 Kylie

Yeah.

00:13:22 Kyle Canete

But I wouldn't like also, uhm, what's it called? Like I, I wouldn't go under high school, like I don't know if I could do middle school or elementary but like definitely high school and definitely college is what I'm looking forward- leaning towards more to high school but if I do end up being a college professor like the drive will still be there and like my, my teacher mission will still be there, so yeah.

00:13:45 Kylie

Yeah, I mean you have time to decide.

00:13:49 Kylie

Yeah, you definitely time to decide. I would, you know, 'cause maybe too, like your life will change and it'll be at that point in your time, like being a college professor will fit more seamlessly into your world or being a high school will fit more seamlessly into, you know, your life at that time.

00:14:06 Kylie

So, I feel like step one, you're here, so, check. Step two, you're getting a masters. Leave a little check mark for that. Yeah, but that's awesome. Good for you.

00:14:20 Kyle Canete

Yeah, like I don't know how I would be as a teacher, but you know.

00:14:25 Kylie

I think you'll be great.

00:14:25 Kyle Canete

Hopefully, hopefully.

00:14:28 Kylie

I really do, at no matter what level you teach, I think you'll be great. You have such a, like a calming like, vibe that you give off like you should, yeah- yeah, you know.

00:14:48 Kylie

And I feel like- I feel like it's like people need that, like you, like teachers need that 'cause they can get like what, whatever grade you teach, right... I feel like it varies like, depending on the grade, but like whatever grade, there is a minimum of like chaos you know and so like you have to just be like, "OK. This is happening. Let's roll," and like you could totally do that. And then I think too, like you're super easy to talk to, you know.

00:15:08 Kylie

So, and I think like a kid, no matter what age needs that, adults no matter what age need that.

00:15:13 Kylie

So yeah, I think and then you're obviously passionate about, like what you do and you like what you do. So, I think that'll translate really easily to students.

00:15:21 Kyle Canete

Yeah 100%.

00:15:21 Kylie

So, I think it'll be great.

00:15:25 Kylie

Uhm, so kind of like to wrap up. What is your biggest takeaway from attending Rutgers?

00:15:33 Kyle Canete

If I were to put like everything that I took away from Rutgers, basically college in general, it would just be, I would just say the value of time, because basically that's all we have.

00:15:47 Kyle Canete

Money comes back, you know, but time doesn't. And I just feel like, you know, college basically, especially my time at Rutgers. Cause you know from when I went to community, it's just go to class, go home.

00:16:02 Kyle Canete

Whereas going to Rutgers, it's a whole new world with uh, diverse like number of people from like many different places and it's just like you want to experience all of it. You want to try to experience all of it.

00:16:18 Kyle Canete

You want to make the most out of your time with how limited it is like in the first place. Like, like I said from commuting to working to studying and to maintaining a social life.

00:16:32 Kyle Canete

Like it's a lot of time management and then how you use your time also is kind of valuable. You know, you want to make the most out of the time that you have in college as well as in general in life.

00:16:47 Kyle Canete

And it's just like, that's just something that I learned the most at Rutgers, just how valuable time is. And then, how to make time, if that makes sense, 'cause a lot of the time like you have to sacrifice sleep basically to make these memories to, make these- to make progress in professional development, to study and everything.

00:17:19 Kyle Canete

And I know sleep is valuable, 100%. Like if I were to say like if I were to have another takeaway at my time at Rutgers, it's the value of sleep because like it's rare. Or like not really rare, but then like it's, it's something that conflicts with time that you want to make the most out of, but you need sleep.

00:17:41 Kyle Canete

I love sleeping, like back then I could sleep on command, but then there's only so many hours in a day that you have to be really- you have to really pick and choose how you use them, and you know just like me and like how I assume everybody in the world would want to make the most out of it.

00:18:02 Kyle Canete

And that's like something I realized in college 'cause that's something that, you know, high school, community college, it felt like you had so much time to do whatever you want. Like, you had time to do- like to do nothing.

00:18:17 Kyle Canete

Whereas, you know, once I went to Rutgers, that was when I realized that my time is limited, like there's only so much I can do in a day because I love to sleep.

00:18:28 Kyle Canete

And like, yeah, that's what I would say number one, number one takeaway, value of time. Second takeaway, the value of sleep.

00:18:37 Kylie

I'm glad that that those were like your takeaways. That's really insightful. Really deep, and I think a great lesson for, you know, the rest of your life. Uhm, thanks for sitting down with me. You know, answering my questions, having this discussion about you.

00:18:58 Kylie

Yeah, and best of luck with COVID. Um, and yeah, I'll see you virtually in our meetings.

00:19:07 Kyle Canete

Alright, thank you for having me.

00:19:10 Outro

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