# An Investigation of the Achievement Goals and Study Process of Athletes in Individual Sports and Team Sports

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### ABSTRACT

Aim: The aim of this study is to investigate of the achievement goals and study process of athletes in individual sports and team sports

**Methods:** For data collection, "Achievement Goals Scale" was used which was developed by Akın <sup>3</sup> and For data collection, "Study Process Scale" was used which was developed by Biggs et al <sup>4</sup> and was adapted to Turkish by Yılmaz and Orhan <sup>5</sup> to 369 participants in total consisting of 126 female and 243 male students.

For data analysis, through SPSS statistical packet program, frequency analysis, descriptive statistics, independent sample t-tests, one-way anova, tukey, pearson correlation analyze were performed.

**Results:** Significant differences were found in the comparison of the participants' achievement goals and study process according to the type of sport, and their achievement goals and study process (p<0.05).

**Conclusion:** According to this; It is seen that those who do team sports have a higher average in achievement goals levels and study process than those who do individual sports.

Keywords: Achievement Goals, Study Process, Team Sports, Individual Sports

## INTRODUCTION

Sports is a multidisciplinary concept that closely concerns people. This reason sports; many sciences such as psychology, sociology, physiology, anatomy, biomechanics interacts with the branch. In recent years, scientific studies in the social sciences researches deal mostly with the sociological and psychological aspects of sports activities. It is of great importance in the development and progress of sports in all its dimensions<sup>1</sup>. At present in sports world, the line between winning and losing has started to be prominent with the increase in the intensity of competition. The idea that athletes who are physically superior is insufficient for success, and psychological performance <sup>2</sup>.

Along with technological innovations; In the changing and developing new world, the modernizing and differentiating education methods in the field of science have revealed the necessity of constantly monitoring and arranging the information. Naturally, an adaptation to these innovations in education should be provided not only by the instructors but also by the students. Experiencing differences in adaptation to renewed education opportunities from individual to individual; makes it necessary to plan according to the level of individuals. Therefore, learning approaches and study approaches using keywords such as perception, personality, attention, motivation become important for the success of education. These factors are; It is thought that it is effective in students' integrating with their own personalities, setting goals for success and exhibiting goal-oriented behaviors.

In the light of these data, when we look at the relevant literature; We see that one of the concepts that is thought to be the most effective in learning is the concept of achievement orientation. Achievement orientation refers to individuals' perspectives on their personal approaches that affect their cognitive, emotional and behavioral responses in the learning process. Individuals can perform the act of learning for different purposes. Individuals may turn to learning because of factors such as gaining knowledge and skills, being successful, increasing self-confidence, gaining

recognition and approval by others, showing that they are hardworking, proving that they have superior abilities, avoiding negative reactions from their relatives and avoiding failure <sup>4</sup>

In our study, we investigate two types of achievement goals as performance orientation and learning orientation. Learning orientation is the individual's internalization of everything related to education during the learning period and trying to master the concepts by approaching learning. The performance orientation is; It is the individual's motivation for what he will achieve as a result of learning rather than learning. Because his motivation for elements such as promotion, gaining status, and looking smart is different from his motivation for pure knowledge.

## **MATERIAL & METHODS**

The aim of this study is to investigate of the achievement goals and study process of athletes in individual sports and team sports.

For data collection, "Achievement Goals Scale" was used which was developed by Akın <sup>5</sup> and For data collection, "Study Process Scale" was used which was developed by Biggs et al <sup>6</sup> and was adapted to Turkish by Yılmaz and Orhan <sup>7</sup> to 369 participants in total consisting of 126 female and 243 male students.

2x2 Achievement orientation scale; It consists of 26 questions and 4 sub-dimensions: learning approach goal orientation (8 items), learning-avoidance goal orientation (5 items), performance approach goal orientation (7 items), and performance-avoidance goal orientation (6 items). Dimensions can be examined in 2 sub-dimensions as performance and learning. <sup>8</sup>

The scale of study process; It is a 5-point Likert-type scale consisting of 2 sub-dimensions, a deep learning approach (10 items) and a surface learning approach (10 items).

For data analysis, through SPSS statistical packet

program, frequency analysis, descriptive statistics, independent sample t-tests, one-way anova, tukey, pearson correlation analyze were performed.

#### RESULTS

Table 1. Participants' Information in terms of Demographical Features

Gender	N	%
Men	243	65.9
Women	126	34.1
Age	Ν	%
20 years and under	118	32
Between 21-25 ages	196	53.1
Age 26 and over	55	14.9
Branch Type	Ν	%
Individual Sports	131	35.5
Team Sports	238	64.5
Grades	Ν	%
Grade 1	85	23.1
Grade 2	95	25.7
Grade 3	103	27.9
Grade 4	86	23.3
Total	369	100

When the table 1 is analyzed in terms of gender, it is seen that % 65.9 of the participants are men, %34.1 are women; in terms of branch type %35.5 are individual sports, %64.5 are team sports; in terms of age %32 are 20 years and under, %53.1 are between 21-25 ages ,%14.9 are 26 age and over; in terms of grades, it is seen that %23.1 participants are at Grade 1, %25.7 are at Grade 2, %27.9 are at Grade 3 and %23.3 are at Grade 4.

Table 2. Comparison Between the Participants Level of Achievement Goals Depending on Gender

Sub Dimension	Gender	Mean	s.d	t	р
Learning	Women	51,21	,245	200	,000*
Orientation	Men	48,40	,213	-,269	
Performance	Women	36,30	,163	4.45	,000*
Orientation	Men	39,88	,189	-,145	

\*(p<0,05)

When the datas are analyzed, there are meaningful dissimilarities in sub-dimension of learning orientation (p=,000), performance orientation (p=,000). According to this data, women (x=51.21 $\pm$ .245) have a higher learning orientation than men participants (x=48.40 $\pm$ .213); It is seen that men (x=39.88 $\pm$ .189) have a higher performance orientation than women (x=36.30 $\pm$ .163).

Table 3. Comparison Between the Participants Level of Study Process Depending on Gender

Sub Dimension	Gender	Mean	s.d	t	р
Deep Approach	Women	65,37	,635	100	000*
	Men	63,49	,748	,402	,000
Surface Approach	Women	34,61	,667	206	,000*
	Men	37,53	,639	,396	
*( 0.05)					

\*(p<0,05)

When the datas are analyzed, there are meaningful dissimilarities in sub-dimension of deep approach (p=,000), surface approach (p=,000). According to this data, women (x=65,37 $\pm$ ,635) have a higher deep approach than men participants (x=63,49 $\pm$ ,748); It is seen that men

 $(x=37,53\pm,639)$  have a higher surface approach than women  $(x=34,61\pm,667)$ .

Table	4.	Comparison	Between	the	Participants	Level	of
Achiev	eme	nt Goals Depe	nding on B	ranch	Туре		

Sub Dimension	Branch Type	Mean	S.S	t	р
Learning	Individual Sports	50,10	,347	247	000*
Orientation	Team Sports	47,11	,325	,347	,000
Performance	Individual Sports	39,20	,213	250	000*
Orientation	Team Sports	36,18	,275	,200	,000
*(p<0,05)					

When the data are analyzed, there are meaningful dissimilarities in sub-dimension of learning orientation (p=,000), performance orientation (p=,000). According to this data, individual sports athletes ( $x=50,10\pm,347$ ) have a higher learning orientation than team sports athletes ( $x=47,11\pm,325$ ); It is seen that individual sports athletes ( $x=39,20\pm,213$ ) have a higher performance orientation than team sports athletes ( $x=36,18\pm,275$ ).

Table 5. Comparison Between the Participants Level of Study Process Depending on Branch Type

Sub Dimension	Branch	Mean	s.d	t	р
	Туре				
Deep Approach	İndividual	34,16	,135		
	Sports	31,21	.167	0.57	000*
	Team	,		,357	,000^
	Sports				
Surface Approach	Individual	33,11	,218		
	Sports	30,15	,273	150	000*
	Team			, 159	,000
	Sports				

<sup>\*</sup>(p<0,05)

When the data are analyzed, there are meaningful dissimilarities in sub-dimension of deep approach (p=,000), surface approach (p=,000). According to this data, individual sports athletes (x=34,16±,135) have a higher deep approach than team sports athletes (x=31,21±,167); It is seen that individual sports athletes (x=33,11±,218) have a higher surface approach than team sports athletes (x=30,15±,273).

 Table 6. Comparison Between the Participants Level of

 Achievement Goals Depending on Grades

Sub Dimension	Grades	Mean	s.d	f	р
	Grade 1	51,43	,703		
Learning	Grade 2	51,11	,773	260	260
Orientation	Grade 3	51,49	,698	,200	,269
	Grade 4	50.95	,864		
	Grade 1	34,10	,212		
Performance	Grade 2	33,16	,231	250	076
Orientation	Grade 3	33,86	,259	,300	,270
	Grade 4	33.19	,261		

\*(p<0,05)

When table 6 is analyzed, there is no meaningful dissimilarity in the participants' level of learning orientation (p=,269) and performance orientation (p=,276) depending on grades (p>0,05)

When table 7 is analyzed, there is no meaningful dissimilarity in the participants' level of deep approach (p=,427) and surface approach (p=,354) depending on grades (p>0,05)

Table 7. Comparison Between the Participants Level of Study Process Depending on Grades

Sub Dimension	Grades	Mean	s.d	f	р
	Grade 1	35,15	,587		
Deen Annroach	Grade 2	34,86	,574	110	407
Deep Approach	Grade 3	34,66	,526	,119	,427
	Grade 4	33.99	,563		
Surface Approach	Grade 1	32,10	,485		
	Grade 2	32,65	,475	100	254
	Grade 3	32,78	,436	,123	,354
	Grade 4	33.11	,426		

\*(p<0,05)

Table 8. Comparison Between the Participants Level of Achievement Goals Depending on Ages

Sub Dimension	Ages	Mean	s.d	f	р
Looming	20 and under	33,15	,268		
Crientotion	21-25 age	32,66	,236	1,187	,000*
Orientation	26 and over	31,56	,274		
Derformence	20 and under	31,10	,362		
Orientation	21-25 age	31,98	,357	1,247	,000*
Onentation	26 and over	33,81	,329		
		/	<i>y</i>		1

\*(p<0,05)

When the data are analyzed, there are meaningful dissimilarities in sub-dimension of learning orientation (p=,000), performance orientation (p=,000). According to this data, 20 and under participants (x=33,15±,268) have a higher learning orientation than 26 and over participants (x=31,56±,274); It is seen that 26 and over participants (x=33,81±,329) have a higher performance orientation than 20 and under participants (x=31,10±,362).

Table 9. Comparison Between the Participants Level of Study Process Depending on Ages

20 and under				
	32,35	,156		
21-25 age	32,26	,136	2,325	,356
26 and over	32,76	,198		
20 and under	31,45	,163		
21-25 age	31,56	,198	2,145	,245
26 and over	31,23	,137		
	21-25 age 26 and over 20 and under 21-25 age 26 and over	21-25 age         32,26           26 and over         32,76           20 and under         31,45           21-25 age         31,56           26 and over         31,23	21-25 age         32,26         ,136           26 and over         32,76         ,198           20 and under         31,45         ,163           21-25 age         31,56         ,198           26 and over         31,23         ,137	21-25 age       32,26       ,136       2,325         26 and over       32,76       ,198

\*(p<0,05)

When table 9 is analyzed, there is no meaningful dissimilarity in the participants' level of deep approach (p=,356) and surface approach (p=,245) depending on ages (p>0,05)

Table 10. The Relationship between Participants' Achievement Goals and Study Process

		Achievement	Study
		Goals	Process
	Pearson	1000	,769**
Achievement	Korelasyonu		,000
Goals	P		369
	Ν	369	
	Pearson	,769**	1000
Study Broose	Korelasyonu	,000	
Sludy Flocess	P	369	
	Ν		369

\*\*(p<0,01)

When the data are examined, it is seen that there is a strong and significant positive relationship between the participants' achievement goals and study process (r=.769,

p<0.01). According to this data, as the success orientation of the participants increases; It is seen that study approaches increase, and as success orientations decrease, study approaches decrease.

#### **DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION**

According to the individual sports and team sports status of the students at Atatürk University Faculty of Sports Sciences; The following results were obtained in this study, which was conducted to examine achievement orientations and study approaches.

When comparing the achievement orientation levels of the participants according to their gender, significant differences were found in favor of women in the learning orientation sub-dimension. This result may be due to the fact that women have a more learning-oriented approach than men in order to establish themselves in our society, especially in the field of education. In the literature, there are many results with similar results with our study. (<sup>9,10,11,12</sup>) These findings support our findings. There were also studies in the literature that did not find any significant difference. (<sup>13,14,15</sup>). These findings contradict our findings.

When comparing the achievement orientation levels of the participants according to their genders, it was concluded that males had a higher average than females in the performance orientation sub-dimension. This may be due to the more result-oriented nature of men due to their social structure. Aydin and et al. <sup>16</sup> in their study on science teachers found that male students were more highly oriented than female students in performance orientation. This finding supports our finding.

When comparing the study process according to the gender of the participants, it is seen that women have a higher average in the deep approach sub-dimension. This is the case for women with a high learning orientation; It may have naturally been caused by studying with a deep approach method in order to learn better. Soyer and Kırıkkanat <sup>17</sup> reached similar findings in their study on university students.

When comparing the study process according to the gender of the participants, men have a higher average in the surface approach sub-dimension. This is the case for men with low learning orientation; acquiring status, passing a class, etc. to the act of learning. may have resulted from their approach to obtain something in such a way.

In the comparison of the success orientation levels of the participants according to the sport type, significant differences were found in favor of those who do individual sports in the sub-dimensions of learning orientation and performance orientation. This is the case for those who do individual sports; because their personal characteristics and abilities directly affect their success; This may be due to individuals being more willing to learn. However, although individuals in team sports may not perform well, the team may win as a result. When we look at individual sports, the individual needs his own abilities and learning capacity in order to succeed. Therefore, these individuals may be more eager to learn.

In the comparison of the study levels of the participants according to the type of sport, significant differences were found in favor of those who do individual sports in the sub-dimensions of deep approach and surface

approach. This situation can be interpreted as an expected finding since those who do individual sports with high learning orientation give more importance to studying in order to realize learning.

Learning is an action that manifests itself in all areas of life and continues until the end of life. For this reason, it is necessary to organize "conference, seminar, symposium" style trainings to improve the attitudes of both individuals who are engaged in team sports and individuals who are engaged in individual sports. By following the exam results; feedback can be applied to improve students' deep approach to learning attitudes.

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