

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
NEWS SERVICE-220 MORRILL HALL
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55455
MARCH 22, 1967

5 SEMINARS FOR WOMEN
OFFERED AT 'U' NEXT YEAR;
APPLY BY MARCH 31

For further information, contact:
Beth Kent, 373-5166

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

The program in continuing education for women, offered by the University of Minnesota's General Extension Division, will present five year-long seminars in the liberal arts in 1967-68.

Because the size of the seminars will be limited, first consideration will be given to applications which are received by the University by Friday, March 31.

Those accepted will be notified in April.

The seminars are designed to help women attain competence and personal satisfaction in their various activities, Mrs. Louise Roff explained recently. She is director of continuing education for women. The program serves a variety of aims, said Mrs. Roff, such as work toward a degree, preparation for a new career, and intellectual revitalization.

Although most seminars have no specific prerequisites, they are taught at the upper-division and beginning graduate level and assume that the women participating have the ability to do independent study. Four of the courses will carry nine credits for the year, and will demand at least one major paper.

The one seminar not offered for credit, "Art and The Problems of Perception," will deal with great works of art in an attempt to sharpen visual perception. Painting, sculpture and architecture from a variety of periods and styles will be discussed.

(MORE)

Purpose of the "Arts of Reading" course is to develop critical understanding of the written word. The first half of the course will be an analysis of various types of writing and the second will be the study of imaginative literature.

"Culture and Society" will study a number of different groups in order to help clarify the meaning of the terms "culture" and "society" and to give a better perspective for judgments about current problems.

"Ideas in America" will examine basic American concepts which condition this country's political thought, art and literature. Old controversies and issues will be discussed in the light of their effect on current discussions.

"New Worlds of Knowledge" will cover topics ranging from the physical and biological sciences to art, music and literature. Primary emphasis will be on new developments in these fields in the past 15 to 20 years.

The seminars generally will meet once every other week from late September to June. Sessions will start at 9:30 a.m. and last until noon, with a few all-day meetings.

Some of the comments from participants in previous liberal arts seminars help to illuminate the sorts of goals sought by women who have enrolled in the program.

One 37-year old woman, with a bachelor of arts degree in English, married to a local attorney, commented, "I feel that my college major does not correlate with my present interests in social and educational problems, history, and political science."

Another, married and with three children ranging in age from 13 to 18, said, "Because of a major in chemistry in both undergraduate and graduate schools, my college programs contained a maximum of science and mathematics and a minimum of courses in the humanities ... My children are now entering the college period and I think it is of utmost importance to be in touch with developments in subjects that they will be studying."

The 42-year-old wife of a personnel manager, who also had three teenage children, said her main purpose in returning to school was for self-enrichment. "However," she added, "when my family no longer requires my main energies, I wish to be ready for a parttime position."

One student, with a bachelor of arts degree, many years behind her, explained that she enrolled to prepare to work toward a master's degree in her undergraduate field.

In general, the women who sign up for the seminars have a college degree, but many have only two years of advanced schooling, and some have only a few credits beyond high school. Most have several children and are married to men with executive or professional positions.

The typical seminar student is not working at the present, but does plan to---at least parttime---sometime in the future. Several are taking more than one course and are active in community work.

For further information on the liberal arts seminars, write or call Mrs. Roff at 310 Nolte Center for Continuing Education, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn., 55455; telephone 373-5166.