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HONORS NEWSLETTER

COLLEGE HONORS SEMINARS FOR 1975-76

In the new academic year, juniors and seniors in the CLA Honors Program again will be offered a series of innovative courses on a broad variety of subjects. These College Honors Seminars serve to augment departmental honors courses by introducing advanced students to new areas of study beyond their specialties. (Generally, students majoring in the area where the seminar is offered may not enroll in it.)

Usually, credits earned range from two to four, the precise number to be determined between instructor and each student; in some instances, seminars are offered only for a specified number of credits. College Honors Seminars may be taken on A/N or S/N grading, and count as Honors Opportunities toward continuation and graduation criteria.

Registration procedures for seminars this year will remain the same. Students need to obtain a clearance card with their registration materials from the Honors Office and present it to the Class Reservations Office in order to draw a seminar class card. (Once the registration limit for a seminar is reached, no additional students will be admitted by "special permission" or "waiting list"; also, students not enrolled will not be permitted to attend a seminar as non-participants. These seemingly harsh procedures are necessary to preserve the small group character of the Seminars.)

College Honors Seminars, as approved by the Honors Council Policy Committee, are listed below. Final listings are published in the Class Schedule each quarter. Detailed information, including course descriptions and scheduling information, are provided with registration materials.

Fall Quarter

Literature and Existentialism

Professor Leonard Duroche
Department of German

The Chomskyan Revolution

Professors Michael Kac and Gerald Sanders
Department of Linguistics

Selected Topics in Medical Ethics

Professor Gordon Mosser and Mr. Martin Bunzl
Medical School, Department of Philosophy

Kurt Vonnegut

Professor Peter Reed
Department of English

Radical Conceptual Change

Professor Peter Robinson
Department of French and Italian
Professors Michael Root and John Wallace
Department of Philosophy
(Seminar to continue winter & spring)

Problems in Psychic Phenomena

Professor Mulford Sibley
Department of Political Science

Winter Quarter

Movies and the American Experience

Professor Ralph Brauer
University College

Physics as Metaphor

Professor Roger Jones
Department of Physics

Environmental Impact Statements & Public Interest Groups

Professor Dean Abrahamson
School of Public Affairs

Time and Literature

Professor Paul Alkon
Department of English

The Earth as a Magnet

Professor Subir Banerjee
Department of Geology and Geophysics

The Burger Court

Professors Harold Chase and Samuel Krislov
Department of Political Science

Alchemy and Modern Literature

Professor Thomas O'Donnell
Department of French and Italian

(Continued on the next page)

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University of Minnesota. Edited by William Kell.

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Book Collecting and Scholarship

Professors John Jensen and Judith Overmier
University Library

Spring Quarter

Power: Its Psychological Aspects

Professor John Darley
Department of Psychology

Biological Rhythms, Clocks, and Oscillations

Professor Willard Koukkari
Department of Botany

Machines and Life

Professor Douglas Olsen
Department of Biochemistry

Genetics and Intelligence

Professor Sandra Scarr-Salapatek
Institute of Child Development

Transformations of Allegory

Professor Marilyn Schneider
Department of French and Italian

World Population Problems

Professor John Webb
Department of Geography

Phi Beta Kappa

Alpha of Minnesota Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the national liberal arts honorary society, invites students to apply for membership. A limited number of candidates is chosen annually on the basis of certain academic requirements and grade point average. If you meet the requirements listed below and wish to be considered for election to the society, bring a current transcript to Dr. Barbara Foster, Secretary of Alpha of Minnesota, at 105 Morrill Hall.

Qualifications for CLA Senior

45 UD course credits earned or registered
Total of 150 or more actual credits
60 or more UM credits completed
GPA 3.5 or higher

Qualifications for CLA Junior

45 UD course credits earned or registered
Total of 120-149 actual credits completed
45 UM credits earned or registered
GPA 3.75 or higher

Qualifications for Non-CLA Seniors

45 UM credits earned or registered
45 UD credits earned or registered
80 percent of work CLA accredited
GPA 3.5 or higher
CLA graduation requirements

Dear Fellow Honors Students,

Welcome back after a long-deserved rest.

I'd like to extend an official welcome to our freshmen on behalf of the Honors Student Senate and we look forward to meeting and working with each of you.

The Student Senate is going to change somewhat this year. Hopefully, the changes will be approved by the beginning of fall quarter. After Murray Walton left last year for a well-deserved break, it became apparent that the leadership structure, a type of informal coordinatorship, was not as strong as it could be. A decision was made to try to strengthen the Senate by reinstating the more familiar structure of an executive board. Election of officers will take place sometime in October; officers will serve one full year, that is, through the beginning of fall quarter, 1976. All honors students are eligible for office.

In addition to the Senate, students participate in a number of programs, such as *High School Visitation* and *One-to-One*, and are also eligible to serve on the Division's Honors Council and Policy Committee. The Senate is free to initiate new programs or to propose reforms, so please be thinking about ideas and projects to be implemented.

I hope that your summer vacation was enjoyable, and I look forward to seeing all of you soon.

Sincerely,

Lynn Gitelis

President, Honors Student Senate

Honors Library Loan Privileges

To assist honors students engaged in a research or thesis project, Wilson Library grants two "Honors Loan" library privileges. The first entitles such students to retain the books they need for as long as one quarter at a time, in contrast to the usual four weeks for undergraduates. The honors arrangement is subject to the regular rules all library patrons must follow. Reserved books, periodicals and other limited loan materials are not covered by this special system, and books recalled for other readers or for reserve must be returned within three days.

The second opportunity is to borrow books on an inter-library loan basis, when the books a student needs for his research are not available directly at the University Libraries. (Ordinarily, this privilege is available only to graduate students and faculty.)

To make use of these benefits, the honors student must have his current fee statement stamped in the Honors Office. Students are asked not to abuse these privileges, since the facilities of the library are strained and the needs of others should be respected.

GRADUATE STUDY FINANCIAL AID

Graduate study is an increasingly important path for entering many occupations, acquiring competence in one's specialty, and achieving excellence for a greater contribution to society. Though undergraduates today are better prepared than ever before, society's increasing complexities and much more extensive knowledge demand advanced study for successful leadership. Graduate education is an opportunity and challenge for outstanding students.

There are, excluding loans, two kinds of financial support for graduate study. The first kind consists of fellowships, scholarships, or traineeships which require no service to the institution and usually demand full-time study. Stipends for these awards vary between \$2000 and \$3500 for the academic year. Very often students are given free tuition and additional allowances for dependents and for summer study. The other kind of aid is the teaching or research assistantship, which may require anywhere from 25% to 75% of full-time service to the institution. University of Minnesota rates for 50% time, nine month appointments, are:

| | |
|--|---------|
| Teaching Assoc. I & Administrative Fellow II | \$4,617 |
| Teaching Associate II | 5,076 |
| Teaching Assistant and Administrative Fellow I | 4,104 |
| Research Assistant | 3,987 |

Some graduate schools offer package plans to combine these two kinds of support over a period of two or more years.

Most awards of either kind come from the graduate student's department, but some are handled through national competitions. Departments are usually the best source of information about financial support, although many major institutions have offices which collect and disseminate information and advise students regarding national programs. Here at the University of Minnesota, the Graduate Fellowship Office, 309 Johnston Hall, has information regarding many kinds of aid.

Very few graduate subventions are based on need; most put greater weight on excellence in scholarship, promise of outstanding contributions, and excellence of personal qualities. Records of previous scholastic achievements and evaluations by one's teachers are the most frequent types of data collected in most competitions. Some require various kinds of tests—the Graduate Record Examination, for instance—and some require project or research proposals.

In the Honors Student Lounge (115F Johnston, next to the main Honors Office), current Bulletins of the major graduate and professional schools, as well as a collection of reference works on advanced degree programs, are available for use. Remember, it is necessary to begin planning for applications a full year in advance of the time you wish to enter.

National competitions usually require more elaborate application materials than those conducted at the department level. Also, most national competitions close some time during the Fall Quarter. The table below gives the normal application deadlines for the major programs.

Seniors interested in fellowships for 1976-77 should visit the Graduate Fellowship Office as soon as possible—particularly those who are interested in national programs.

Finally, something should be said about faculty participation. Professors are sometimes required to nominate candidates for certain fellowships. Because of this requirement and because academic references constitute a very important part of the applicant's dossier, faculty members have a serious obligation to nominate promptly their best students or advisees and conscientiously try to fill requests for recommendations. Should any faculty member need clerical help in meeting fellowship deadlines, the Graduate Fellowship Office will provide it.

*E. W. McDiarmid, Director
Graduate Fellowship Office*

Normal Deadlines for Major Graduate Fellowships

Rhodes: October 15.

Danforth Graduate Fellowships: October 31.

Marshall: October 8.

Churchill: November 14.

Fulbright (local deadline): October 10.

National Science Foundation: November 15.

U of M Graduate Fellowships: Early February.

Phi Kappa Phi

Phi Kappa Phi is a national honor society founded in 1897 for the primary purpose of recognizing and encouraging superior scholarship in all fields of study. The national office currently lists 175 colleges and universities in its Chapter Directory. The University of Minnesota Chapter, chartered in May, 1974, invites junior and senior students in all University of Minnesota curricula to apply for membership. A select number of graduate students and faculty members are also elected to membership each year.

Additional information about the society and its membership requirements may be obtained from Dr. LaVern A. Freeh, Chapter President, 405 Coffey Hall, St. Paul Campus, 373-0725.

Professional and Graduate Program Scheduled for October 6-17

With the current tight labor market, cutbacks in recruitment and hiring, and increased competition for advanced training, the CLA Placement Office is attempting to provide a broader range of services to students. These include planning for career objectives at an earlier stage, consideration of additional alternatives, and assistance in locating prospective employers. Campus recruitment by business and government, though not as active as before, still provides hundreds of students each year with jobs.

For students planning for graduate or professional study, there will be an opportunity to talk with visiting representatives of numerous schools during Professional and Graduate Schools Week, October 6 to 17. Approximately 120 graduate schools will be invited by the CLA Placement Office and nine other area colleges to participate in this annual program. Areas usually represented include law, business, education, journalism, library science, international relations, social work, and industrial relations. Information available from visiting representatives may include qualifications for acceptance, cost, instructional program, prerequisite courses, placement opportunities, and alternative programs.

From the perspective of the participating schools, this program is not a device for screening applicants; it is simply a means of providing information and en-

couraging applications. All University students, regardless of college, are invited to visit the CLA Placement Office (Room 17, Johnston Hall) early in fall quarter for details about Professional and Graduate Schools Week and to arrange for interviews.

Seniors applying to professional or graduate programs are encouraged to open a file with the Placement Office for letters of recommendation they receive from faculty members or others. Upon request of the student, copies of these letters will be sent to schools, committees, or prospective employers. Any student interested in this service, which is free of charge, should register in 17 Johnston Hall.

Ruth Brebner
Assistant Placement Director

Journalism Seminar Developed

Humor in mass communication was the subject of an honors seminar in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication last spring quarter. A committee of honors students, in consultation with departmental honors representative Everette E. Dennis, selected the topic after more than a quarter of planning and discussion. The students were charged with developing a topic that would allow journalism honors students with such diverse interests as newspaper and magazine writing, advertising, and photo journalism to work with a common theme.

After initial discussions of theories of humor and mass communication, the seminar participants developed contextual studies of media practitioners who use humor in communication. The contextual studies provided a first step toward a more elaborate term paper, some of which were designed to be magazine articles.

Paper topics ranged from studies of Saul Steinberg and Robert Benchley to "James Thurber's Battle of the Sexes," humor in children's magazines, and cartoon images of the counter-culture. Several papers have been submitted for publication.

Ritter Selected for Internship

Malcolm Ritter, senior honors student in journalism, has been selected for the Sears Congressional Internship Program and will spend winter quarter in Washington, D.C.

The program, sponsored by the Sears Foundation of the Sears, Roebuck Co., is in cooperation with the Association for Education in Journalism and provides an exposure to national government for selected journalism students.

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