

In PSU curriculum

New courses offered for spring term

Health education 45

Have you ever been to a keg party and decided not to drink alcohol? What were your friends' reactions? Helping students understand such social attitudes towards alcohol is just one objective of "Alcohol Awareness," a new course offered at the Hazleton campus this spring.

The course is offered under Health Education 45, and fulfills the mandatory health credit. It will meet once a week on Wednesdays, fifth period. George Bobby will teach a class of approximately twenty students while Robert Sabatino teaches a similar class simultaneously.

The classes' small size is imperative, because the course is not a straight lecture class, which PSU already has. "Alcohol Awareness" will include lectures as well as outside expertise and role-playing. It is a new concept in teaching techniques and objectives.

"It's a super course if run correctly."

George Bobby

"It is a super course if run correctly," says Mr. Bobby, who expects a big turnout. He and Mr.

Sabatino attended a clinic to learn teaching procedures for this special class. The books entitled "Alcohol: Use, Non-use and Abuse" are on order for \$4.50.

Both Mr. Bobby and Mr. Sabatino stressed that the course is not designed to persuade students to stop drinking. The course's main goals are to "present objective, scientific information concerning alcohol, its use, misuse and abuse, and to develop an awareness of the resulting effects on individuals and society."

Scare tactics about deaths and alcoholism, and manipulating the legal drinking age have, so far, been fairly ineffective. The course endeavors to give students an understanding of alcohol and

its effects, thus enabling them to make responsible decisions about drinking and non-drinking.

Why did Mr. Bobby and Mr. Sabatino decide to teach "Alcohol Awareness"? Mr. Bobby is personally interested in alcohol and its effects. Mr. Sabatino specializes in counselling and decision-making, and the main purpose behind the course is helping students make sound, individual decisions based upon unbiased facts.

Labor studies 100

Labor Studies 100, "Industrial Relations" is a new course being offered on campus during the upcoming Spring Term.

The purpose of this course is to understand labor relations in America. This requires description and analysis of three subjects: 1.) The historical setting; 2.) The organization, objectives and behavior of the participating institutions and people involved in American labor relations; and 3.) Current developments in labor relations.

The course attempts to meet the interests of those wishing to understand basic labor relations by explaining concepts, terminology and practices.

It will be accepted as a basic degree requirement in social sciences.

Dr. Harold Aurand will be teaching this new course.

Research projects make teaching worthwhile

By Steve Kroll-Smith

Students in sociology gain a more realistic appreciation of the discipline by "doing" sociology rather than by simply reading about it. The following is a summary of three of the more interesting research projects designed and carried out by students in the fall offering of Introductory Sociology.

In an observational study of gamesmanship in pool halls, Larry Levitsky found that in addition to skillful play, a wide array of "off-table strategies" enter into the contest. Used to distract or frustrate an opponent, these off-table strategies often result in a missed shot or loss of confidence. Larry's research provides a revealing view of the hidden agenda of competitive pool.

Cindy Onuschak and Kim Ziolk, in a sophisticated longitudinal study, demonstrated a positive correlation between growing up and increasing levels of motivation, frustration, and

anxiety. A significant sidelight of this research is that levels increased for both males and females.

Finally, in an innovative piece of research, John Timko and Angela Barletta discovered a radical shift in female children's consumer habits from third to fourth grade. Making use of the Christmas season — a time when children are most consumer conscious — Timko and Barletta found the Christmas hopes of third grade girls to be doll-centered while their fourth grade counterparts were disproportionately designer clothes-centered. This marked shift from play to a conscious concern with self-presentation, signals considerable growth in the short span of twelve months. My guess is that not a few developmental psychologists would find this bit of information of the utmost interest.

Represented in student research of this quality are the kinds of observational and critical skills that make teaching a worthwhile activity.

Cote attends seminar at Berkeley

By Joseph Krushinsky, Jr.

A new course in business literature currently offered at Highacres under the continuing education program, comes as a result of one instructor's study of the subject area this past summer.

Dr. Margaret Cote attended an eight week seminar at the University of California at Berkeley entitled, "Business in the History of American Culture" through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Dr. Cote was one of twelve participants selected from a group of 67 applicants for the seminar.

"Since the seminar was historical, I thought that I might be a bit 'out of my element,' but only five of the participants were professional historians," said Cote.

After the seminar Dr. Cote wanted to teach a course which summarized the development of American Business from a literary

standpoint; however, she said that no English course in the University fit that description. Later it was suggested that the course be taught as Labor Studies 100, "Topics in Humanities". Since this course fits no Bachelor's Degree requirements and would have to be taken as an elective, Cote chose instead to offer the course as a part of continuing education.

The course, which aims at examining the history of twentieth century management includes works from as early as George Bernard Shaw's to later pieces form the sixties through late seventies. Dr. Cote reports that 27 people have enrolled for the course and many of those attending are currently working in the business and managerial areas. In addition, Cote has done some writing on the subject since the seminar.

"I've written two articles, and I'm hoping for a book length study on literature's reflection of business."



Dr. Cote enjoys California scenery.

Aside from the learning part of her trip, Dr. Cote said that she also enjoyed the California Summer.

"While those who remained in Pennsylvania coped with several humid heat waves, I was able to walk the length of Fisherman's Wharf, hike among redwoods in Muir Woods, tour the Yosemite Valley, and straddle the San Andreas Fault at Point Reyes."

Shaevel offers physics programs

During each of the past three years a physics related program, "Color and Optical Illusion," has been presented in fifth-grade classrooms throughout the Hazleton Area School District. This year Mr. M. Leonard Shaevel with Mr. James Method assisting will present an expanded version of the program on campus for current fifth-graders.

The program will be conducted in the classroom of the Physical Education Building starting at 9 a.m. on the following dates:

March 11
March 18
March 25
April 15
April 22
May 6
May 13

The demonstration program will deal with some of the physical aspects of light, vision, and illusion. Although it has been designed with fifth-graders in mind, it should be of general interest to adults.



Prof. Shaevel instructs fifth-graders in physics program.

Career Day program expands

The Penn State Highacres Campus is tentatively scheduling a "Career Day" on March 23 involving students from high schools in Hazleton and surrounding areas.

The program, which is run by Dean Mcallus, began as a local service project for high school students and has been successfully conducted for the past three years. Previously, "Career Day" dealt strictly with the Engineering profession, however, this year Dean Mcallus hopes to involve the sciences as well.

Students from high schools such as Hazleton, West Hazleton, Berwick, Tamaqua, Marian and

M.M.I. are invited by Penn State to spend the day at the Highacres campus and eat lunch in the cafeteria along with the P.S.U. students. They have the opportunity to tour the campus and get a first hand view of college life.

The students are chosen by their guidance counselors according to their ability and interest in the maths and sciences. The students, varying in grades from tenth to twelfth, will be instructed in Engineering and Science by Penn State instructors, former P.S.U. graduates as well as experienced employers from local industries.