

Lehigh University To Offer Major/Minor Combinations

"The best of both worlds," is the way Lehigh provost and vice president A. C. Zettlemoyer describes an innovative academic

program at the University which gives its undergraduates maximum flexibility in preparing themselves for postgraduate

life. The total program gets under way with the start of the 1975-76 academic year.

Starting with the current semester (spring 1975), Arts College students can combine their "major" with a "minor" in the fundamentals of business. Starting next semester (fall 1975), Business College students can pick up a "minor" in English, international relations, government, social relations, or one of the other curricula offered in the Arts College.

It is even possible for a student to concentrate on two "minors," and Lehigh grade transcripts will henceforth indicate the "minor(s)" as well as the "major" course of study.

"By opening up the option for students in each of the three Colleges to minor in programs offered by the others," comments Dr. John W. Hunt, Arts College dean. "Lehigh is trying to break the narrowing hold of specialization and at the same time to give graduates specific skills."

"In effect, we are placing the resources of the larger University at the service of individuals no matter where they take their majors. From our point of view in the Arts College, the fundamentals-of-business minor gives our liberally-trained students an additional edge in getting a career started."

"Liberal arts graduates have never had trouble, in the long run, emerging as

leaders in their fields, but they have often had to begin slowly. Now they will be able to bring additional skills to the beginning of their careers.

"This serves society in its crucial need to have citizens trained in the fundamental arts and sciences in all corners of society, including the market place."

Said Brian G. Brockway, Business College dean: "Our faculty has long recognized the need to develop the non-business interests of the students. The present program provides for many electives which can be taken in business or in any other area of the University."

"Beginning with the 1975 fall semester, the Arts minor program will permit our students to concentrate their elective interest in a single field and develop what might well turn out to be a lifelong interest in a cultural field. It is also quite probable that a business student will see the relationship between a field such as international relations or psychology and the business area selected, as a professional interest."

Lehigh undergraduates also may "minor" in fields or topical areas within their own College. For instance, a student majoring in industrial engineering and developing a program dealing with the principles and practices of modern manufacturing and production may wish to devote approximately 15 percent of his-her total credit hours to develop a competence in laser technologies.

Or a biology or geology major in the Arts College might wish to "minor" in philosophy, or an economics major in the Business College could opt for a "minor" in accounting.

Dr. Zettlemoyer believes

the "minor" option for Lehigh students puts them in the rather unique position of being faced, perhaps, with a tougher decision in choosing a "minor" than a "major"—since the "minor," about halfway through their undergraduate career, could develop into their "major" course of study should educational objectives change.

A "minor" in the educational sense means subordinate or supplementary to the student's "major," or principal, subject; in the Lehigh context, it means a concentration of at least 15 hours in the "minor" discipline.

The present situation began to take shape several years ago when engineering undergraduates, who had traditionally been required to complete a minimum of 25 credit hours of non-engineering courses, became the first at Lehigh to be given the option of concentrating—that is, "minoring"—in a given area of the humanities or one of the social sciences.

"This minors option was adopted," says Dr. John J. Karakash, dean of the Engineering College, "to add a dimension to our students' education by enlarging their world-of-the-mind through study in an area identified with our value system. This departure is away from the rigid, recipe-type of course diet toward more personalized, program-oriented degree programs."

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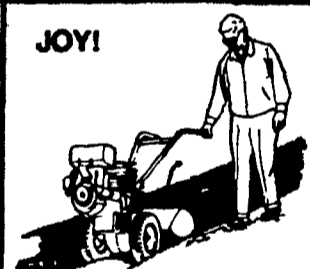
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