

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

for

"THE SPECIAL SECTION"
(Experimental College)

1. ASTRONAUTS OF INNER SPACE

Jeff Berner

The course is concerned with the literature and art of the European avant-garde since 1885. The movements called "Pataphysics", "DADA", Surrealism and Existentialism will be discussed and illustrated. Possible interrelationships with Zen and the psychedelic experience will be explored. Class materials will include films, lectures, presentations, readings and individual projects.

2. NEW FORUM: NON-VERBAL SEMINAR

Jeff Berner

The course is an exploration in the use of non-verbal media of expression and communication. The phenomena of colors, textures, sounds, odors, lines and motions will be presented individually and in a variety of relations. There will be no class discussions; the instructor will speak only at the opening and concluding meetings.

3. PERSPECTIVES OF REVOLUTION

Sharon Gold

The purpose of the course will be to describe the components of revolution: analyses of the political, economic and social structures of society; modes of protest against these structures; tactics of destroying outworn power structures, and visions of a new society. Discussions will focus on the relevance of these perspectives for political action in the United States. Readings will include selections from literature, philosophy and the social sciences.

4. COMPETITION AND VIOLENCE

Joe Barankin

The course is an exploration into the experiential dimensions of personal and social competition. Approximately half the class time has been spent learning and practicing the basics of judo as one stylized conflict situation. The antagonists speak to each other while they are engaged in physical conflict. During the ensuing discussions, the members of the class analyze their experiences in the competitive situation in relation to their outside reading, express their emotions within the conflict situation, and compare their experiences with those of other members of the class.

4. COMPETITION AND VIOLENCE (Continued)

Although judo has been the only competitive medium used thus far, the class has discussed the possibility of using other media, such as checkers or basketball, for further exploration of the competition encounter.

5. WORKSHOP IN SMALL GROUP DEVELOPMENT Andy Gaines

The purpose of this course will be to explore various small group techniques such as theatre games, body movement and artistic expression, in an effort to develop individual awareness and growth.

6. PEOPLE AND PEACE Mike Vozick

The course will examine the problem of war from the point of view of how an individual's views on war relate to the policy and acts of his country. We will discuss the ways in which an individual can attempt to effect change in his nation's policies.

7. BLACK NATIONALISM Aubrey LaBrie

The course will study the origin, development and influence of Black Nationalism as a force in American society. Readings will be selected from works which indirectly set forth basic ideas underlying nationalist ideology, as well as works which deal directly with Black Nationalist movements and ideology.

8. NON-VIOLENCE IN A VIOLENT WORLD Ira Sandperl

The course will explore the social, political, economic, institutional and individual aspects of violence and non-violence. We shall discuss the ways in which attitudes and acts of non-violence can be effective in a world of rapid and unpredictable social change. Readings will include Joan Bondurant's Conquest of Violence, Aldous Huxley's Ends and Means, Louis Fischer's Life of Mahatma Gandhi, and Erich Fromm's The Sane Society.

Ira Sandperl is co-founder with Joan Baez of the Institute for the Study of Non-violence in Carmel, California, where he serves as director and seminar leader.

10. PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Margaret Nixon

The course will attempt to develop the individual's awareness of his own ideas and feelings and sensitivity to the emotions of others. We shall use the small group as a vehicle in attempting to learn to communicate these experiences more accurately and effectively.

11. CRITICAL THINKING

Cynthia Carlson

The course will explore the relationships between intellectual formulations and actions affecting social change. We shall focus on the relationships between intellectual activity, social action and the educational process.

12. GROUP DISCUSSION: EDUCATION AND PERSONAL VALUES

Mike Powell

The group has been focusing on the problems of interpersonal relationships between individuals and within the context of society. We have been discussing the difficulty of developing meaningful contacts with people in an urban community, and have been describing the feelings of isolation and alienation that result.

13. ORGANIZING

Tom Ramsay

The course will be a workshop for people involved in some aspect of community organizing. Discussion will focus on methods of bringing together various groups in the community and moving them toward effective social action.

14. PAUL GOODMAN SEMINARS

Paul Goodman will lead discussions on education and contemporary social problems.

15. THE POLITICS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Dr. Gene Geisler

Dr. Geisler will conduct a symposium on State Government which will be centered around a trip to the State Legislature in Sacramento. The symposium is the outgrowth of student concern that their education be pertinent to the problems that confront them as students and citizens. Students are beginning to realize that the nature and quality

16. THE POLITICS OF HIGHER EDUCATION (Continued)

of their education at San Francisco State is closely interrelated with decisions that are made at the State College Chancellor's office, the Division of Finance in Sacramento, the Governor's office and the State Legislature. During the symposium, students will have the opportunity to see these governing bodies in action, and to participate in study groups on the issues pertinent to the current legislative session.

16. SOMETHING BIG: ART AND THE CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT Donna Mickleson

The purpose of this course is to become aware of the integration of visual and critical perceptual experience, and to learn how this experience can be transformed into creative action to change the campus environment. Our attention is focused on the problem of bringing a sense of human proportion to the institution--this one. Students are engaged in individual projects in painting, sculpture, landscape design and architectural enhancement.

17. THE URBAN ACTION SEMINAR Dr. Fred Thalheimer

The seminar is conceived as a threshold through which students may enter into the immediate and vital concerns of the San Francisco community. Students are expected to work with an organization in the community, to participate in the seminar and to write an evaluative report at the end of the semester. The purposes of the course are to provide students with information on the kinds of citizens' activity presently going on in the city, to develop their conceptual tools for evaluating the styles, methods and effectiveness of these organizations, and to enable students to discover the ways in which they can participate effectively in the community.

This course is offered by Dr. Thalheimer under the auspices of the Sociology Department, as Sociology 199.

18. THE NEW LEFT IN AMERICA Jimmy Garrett

Through round table discussion the seminar is designed to analyze, criticize, and project the future of left movements in America.

19. TALK BACK THEATER

Bruce Mackey and Al Bauman

"Talk Back" is an attempt to explore theater techniques where actors and audience can probe together their feelings and awareness of human needs--be they political, interpersonal or social--in a community context. Mutual exploration and creative building will be keynotes in this approach to relevant, hopefully excellent, theater.