

# The Salemite

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## Academic Council Proposes Credit for Jan-Term Classes

By: Alicia Nesbit

Biology 10 during Jan-term? It's a possibility. Academic Council is voting on modifications in the January-term program to include courses satisfying basic distribution and major requirements.

Currently, of the 155 schools with an interim program, two-thirds offer basic distribution credit and three-fourths offer courses for major credit. Salem is included in the one third that do not offer distribution credit and among the one fourth not offering courses for major credit.

In addition, Salem is among the 13% of all 155 schools that state that January-term courses are not equivalent to regular term courses. Salem is not the only school that does not offer courses for credit, but we are definitely in the minority in comparison.

The proposed changes in the January-term curriculum include requiring a total of 36 courses to graduate, four of which must be taken during January term. This is to preclude students from overloading in the fall or spring in order to avoid taking January term. Students will be prohibited from taking more than two January-terms for basic distribution or for major credit. To achieve a balance, two January-terms must be selected from the independent study, internship, travel, experimental, interdisciplinary courses (i.e. Humor, Magic, Jewelry Design, etc.), or any other special interest programs.

There are many advantages to the new January program. Dean Russell agreed that "the expansion of curricular offerings for each department or major will allow

students to take more complex courses and give credit toward their major." Dr. Triplette, a member of the faculty committee that will vote on the proposed changes, feels that "would be an innovative way to offer traditional courses. Students can immerse themselves in the subject matter."

Also, since several courses are very popular, and students are unable to take them during the regular semesters, these courses would be offered in January as well, to give all students an opportunity to enroll.

Any course required for a major or for basic distribution cannot be offered only during January. There is no intention of eliminating any internships or independent study projects created by students. These, as well as all experimental and interdisciplinary courses, are

what make the January-term experience so beneficial to students.

With the addition of courses for credit in the January term program alterations must be made on the present grading policy. All internships, independent studies, and experimental courses will still be graded on a pass/fail (or honors, satisfactory, unsatisfactory) basis. All basic distribution and major courses will be graded and averaged into the student's grade point average. The introduction of grading into January-term may increase students' motivation.

Suzanne Moye, the sophomore representative of the January-term Committee, added that she's "pleased with the proposed changes. I hope it will make January-term more academically challenging and worthwhile for all

students."

The proposed modifications will affect all Salem students. The Continuing Education students will also be required to complete 36 credits to graduate, four of which must be taken during January-term. However, the policy of "prior experience" will still be open to C.E. students.

The changes in January have not been implemented. Academic Council has not finished its deliberation; therefore, there is no guarantee the proposal will reach the faculty for the final vote. Dean Russell feels the Jan-term modifications will help "standardize the expectations about January-term for the students and the faculty." If passed, the new January program will run on a two-year trial basis, at which time the program will be evaluated extensively.

## After Her Own Image: Women's Work 1985

By: Fran Spier

After a year and half of tireless efforts from Jo Anne Vernon, exhibition coordinator, and several others, "After Her Own Image: Women's Work 1985" had its opening reception in Salem College's FAC gallery on Friday, February 22, 1985. It seems only appropriate that such an art show,

open only to women artists, should hang in the gallery of a woman's college such as Salem.

4,650 entry forms were sent out to women all across the United States. Of these 4,650 entry forms, 1,087 were returned for entry in the jurying process. Most artists entered four to five pieces of work

— consequently, the juror viewed over four thousand slides plus several movies and videos. The jurying process took place over a period of three days. In that three day period, 198 pieces of work were selected from the 4000.

The show was juried by Dorothy Gillespie. Ms. Gillespie, originally from Virginia and now residing in New York City, is a sculptor. She is a leader in the women's art movement. Ms. Gillespie's openness and enthusiasm for the works entered provided for an interesting jurying process for all of those involved.

"After Her Own Image: Women's Work 1985" will be on display in the FAC through March 29, 1985.

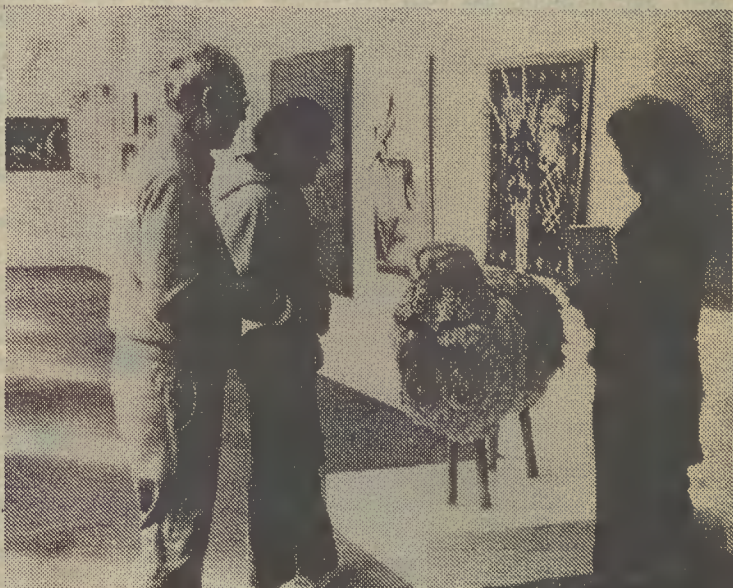


Photo by Fran Spier

Students and faculty admire Salem Cash Award winner.

## 30% in General Survey Experience Discrimination

By: Pam Shores

350 Salem students completed The Salemite questionnaire distributed at the SGA meeting of February 12th.

- 108 of these students claimed to have experienced an act of discrimination while on campus. (Almost 30% of students)
- Of those students that experienced discrimination on campus 35 answered that their experiences had affected their choice of major or career goal. That's 10%
- Most on-campus discrimination was in the form of age, sex, income level, and academic ability. The freshmen had a higher rate of discrimination due to age than the other classes.
- 195 Salem students answered that they had been discriminated against off campus. (45% more than on campus)
- Most off-campus discrimination was in the form of age and sexual discrimination. Quite a few students also stated that going to Salem itself was the cause for some discrimination off campus.

## Human Rights Still a Major Concern

By: Linda Surlis

On Tuesday, February 19th, former-U.S. President Jimmy Carter travelled to Wake Forest University to address the topics of human rights and American foreign policy.

Carter stated that some of the most important tasks he faced in the White House were resolving disputes and maintaining peace in the international community. He cited the Camp David Accords as bringing "understanding between Arabs and Israelis who hated each

other for thousands of years."

Human rights continues to be one of Carter's greatest concerns. His public fight for civil rights began when he became chairman of the Suffolk Co. (Georgia) School Board at a time when many of his peers believed "that it was God's will for blacks not to have equal rights." During that period, the transformation from racial discrimination to racial equality "would prove to be difficult. Men like Martin Luther

King and Andrew Young were crucial in the fight for civil rights."

Carter described human rights as "another word for democracy and freedom. Other leaders know their policy on human rights affects their relationship with the United States."

Carter urged the audience to "identify life's purposes and pursue them persistently, aggressively, and courageously, even when it involves sacrifice."