

New capstone courses to be offered

By KIM WEAVER
Staff Writer

Ten capstone courses in the College of Arts and Sciences' new curriculum will be offered to students next semester.

"Capstone courses are interdisciplinary courses that look at one field in depth," said Cynthia Dessen, assistant to the associate dean of general education. "The idea is that they 'cap' your education, or round it off. A capstone is a crowning architectural ornament which completes a structure."

Capstone courses are used to fulfill the five B.A. level requirements in the new curriculum, but they may be taken by students in their major field, Dessen said. Although they are designed primarily for juniors and seniors, they may be taken by sophomores as electives, she said.

Thirty capstone courses have been created, but only a few are offered each semester, she said. The courses involve small classes — generally from 30 to 50 people — but are not the advanced level courses some students believe they are, she said.

"They are intended for students who are curious, intelligent and well-educated, but not necessarily a specialist in the field," she said.

Dessen said priority was not given to any field when deciding which capstone courses to submit to the new curriculum.

"We're open to accepting any course a department considers interdisciplinary, or any course that looks at the value systems behind that field of study," she said.

Both faculty and students have been enthusiastic about the courses, she said, and enrollment the past few years has been good.

Effective next semester, the 10 capstone courses offered will be classified under the numbers 94A, B, C and so forth. The courses were previously classified under another number, Dessen said.

Three courses will be offered in the philosophical perspective next semester: ●"The seven liberal arts" (Classics 94A) will give students a chance to reflect on their personal and educational development. It is open only to seniors.

●"The meaning of literacy in the computer age" (Classics 94B) will examine the computer as a new technology for reading and writing.

●"Culture and world" (Philosophy 94A) is created to help students understand the cultural perspectives they have been exposed to in education, to approach intelligently the contradictions of the culture and to achieve a unified world-view of culture. The course is open to juniors and seniors only.

Three courses will be offered in the social sciences perspective:

●"Public finance and public choice" (Economics 94A) will involve applying basic consumer theory to public finance questions. The course has a prerequisite of Economics 10. Students who have taken Economics 140 or 141 may not take this course.

●"Psychoanalysis and the social sciences" (Political Science 94A) will examine the historical development of psychoanalytic theory from the time of

Sigmund Freud to present day and will attempt to apply the theories to major problems in society.

●"Practicum in policy analysis" (Political Science 94D, Sociology 94A) will involve the student in the real world of public policy choice and will study problems students have selected as well as campus, national, community and state problems. The course is offered to seniors only.

The aesthetic perspective will offer three capstone courses:

●"Courtship and courtliness from King Arthur to Queen Victoria" (French 94A, Women's Studies 94A) will examine love in the Middle Ages and the Romantic era, focusing on Courtly love as developed in Arthurian tales about knights and ladies, and Romantic love as developed in certain 19th century poems.

●"Politics and literature" (Political Science 94C) is a study of the relationship between politics and literature in settings including classical, medieval, modern European, American and the Third World sources.

●"Women in folklore and literature" (English 94D) will also be offered in the aesthetic perspective for the spring semester. It is listed as Folklore 195 in the Class Schedule.

One course will be offered in the natural sciences perspective for next semester.

"Human resources, population and environment" (Biology 94A) has a prerequisite of Biology II or another course in the biological sciences.

Groups may find unity in CAN

By THOMAS BEAM
Staff Writer

The newly organized Campus Awareness Network is designed to promote communication between socially conscious campus organizations, said Karl Tameier, one of the group's co-chairmen.

"Our goal is to unite different socially responsible groups," Tameier said. "There's always some common ground between groups that work on related issues. . . . We wanted to pull the groups together so they can work together and support each other, and improve publicity for all the groups," he said.

The organization consists of a central committee as well as member organizations such as the Black Student Movement, the Campus Gay and Lesbian Association, and the Carolina Committee on Central America.

BSM President Sibby Anerson said, "CAN brings about financial and verbal support for different issues and gives us a better and more

knowledgeable group of campus leaders. Through CAN, we bring everybody in and co-sponsor programs," she said.

The group was formed by co-chairs Tameier and Mike Smith in early September. "We sent invitations to different organizations to come talk about things they had in common," Tameier said.

Issues are brought up at weekly meetings, and CAN organizes support for the concerned organization. "Organizations are more likely to keep up their efforts if they get the kind of support we offer," Tameier said.

But organizations decide for themselves what issues they support. Anderson said, "Anytime you have such a large, diverse group, there won't be complete agreements all the time."

"We talk about an issue and leave it up to the individual group to get involved," she said.

Jim Duley, CGLA chairman and a member of CAN's central commit-

tee, said the CGLA must be wary of supporting issues that might be called political because the Campus Governing Council did not fund political or religious groups.

"There are some clear-cut issues that we (CGLA) cannot speak out on because of our members," said Cathy E'Dalgo, publicity coordinator of the CGLA. "We have members on both sides of many important issues."

Tameier said CAN helped out during the anti-apartheid rally on Oct. 11. "The rally was a big success," Tameier said. "We got a lot of help from BSM members."

Anderson agreed. "The organization itself has worked well so far, especially during the rally," she said.

CAN will sponsor a film festival Nov. 11-14 for any group that wants to show a film. "The festival will be a cross-cultural film event," Tameier said. "We want it to be a conscience-raising event. We want it to open people up to things not normally seen in theaters."

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