

Special Studies has variety

Design your own courses

by Nancy Pate
Staff Writer

If you would like to live in a kibbutz in Israel and get a semester's credit for it, chances are the Office of Experimental and Special Studies can help you out.

According to Mark Appelbaum, dean of the program, a student may arrange just about anything he wants within the limits of academic validity.

Special studies programs range from

extended registration, independent studies and in-absentia registration to the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies.

Arrangements for those alternatives can be made through Appelbaum's office in 303C South Building.

Under extended registration, a student may receive six hours credit for a three-hour course, provided he can find a faculty member willing to supervise his in-depth study and extra work.

A student wanting to take an independent study also needs a faculty member to guide him in the course.

Appelbaum said generally a specific grade point average is not required for independent studies, although individual schools and departments may have their own requirements.

A student interested in doing a portion of his University work outside the Chapel Hill vicinity may sign up for in-absentia registration. This is a very highly

specialized program, according to Appelbaum, in which the student is enrolled in regular classes but does his course work elsewhere. In past years, in-absentia registration has enabled certain students to work in state legislatures and others to study abroad.

The interdisciplinary studies major is for students who have an interest in combining several areas of knowledge. The student designs his own program for his last two years with the help of the experimental studies office.

Appelbaum said this is another highly individualized, structurally disciplined program. The interdisciplinary studies are based largely upon course work, including some independent study and seminar, but the courses must come from six different departments in the last two years.

No certain grade point average is required, he said, and choices of interdisciplinary majors are open, depending on the interest of the student and the ability of the University to accommodate him academically. Students have already graduated with majors that include population, ecology and regional studies.

Students must apply for interdisciplinary degree candidacy no later than 45 semester hours or three semesters before expected graduation.

Appelbaum believes programs administered through the Office of Experimental and Special Studies enable students to maximize their previous knowledge and interests.

Appelbaum said he is used to students wandering into his office and saying, "I wonder if I can..." It's unusual when they can't.

in business, government, education and professional organizations.

Selections will be held early this fall among the sophomore class for ten to fifteen students to join the program and participate in the Fellows' internships, seminars and group activities.

Some forty UNC students are currently involved, and their activities within the program range from an academic course on "Leadership and Social Change" to summer internships

with U.S. Senators, the American Civil Liberties Union, an educational television station and dozens of other groups.

Selection as a Fellow does not provide for a monetary stipend, but the Fellows staff does assist members in securing the summer internships. On occasion the Fellows office can provide funding for a summer program where no corporate sponsor is available.

Previous classes of Fellows have held a number of top positions at Carolina. Each year since the program began, the selection class has included the students later chosen president of the student body, president of Phi Beta Kappa and chairman of the Carolina Symposium.

The selection process for this year's sophomore class begins immediately, and any sophomore interested in the Fellows program should contact the Fellows office in 103 Phillips Hall Annex before Sept. 2. Final selections will be made Oct. 5-7. Phone for the Fellows program is 933-5032.

N.C. Fellows offer choices

The North Carolina Fellows: a lot of them are girls instead of fellows, and many come from out-of-state.

But despite the misnomer, the Fellows program has developed during its six years at Carolina into a very active group offering a wide variety of leadership activities for selected UNC students.

Funded by donations from various corporations and individuals, the Fellows program strives to help students develop their leadership skills for future positions

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