

Director says complete history requires Women's Studies

Editor's note: This is the first of a six-part series profiling outstanding women in North Carolina and at the University in honor of Women's History Month.

By Dawn Wilson
Staff Writer

Barbara Harris, director of the Women's Studies program at UNC, said most students were amazed when they learned that women were not admitted to the University as freshmen until 1965.

"Until then, this was a male college to which women could transfer their junior year if there was a major here that they couldn't get at Greensboro, which was then the women's college in the system," she said.

Harris grew up in the Northeast, receiving her bachelor's degree in history

Women's History Month

from Vassar College and her master's and doctorate from Harvard.

"When I went to graduate school in the early to mid-sixties, there was no such thing as women's history," she said. It wasn't until the late '60s and early '70s that women's history developed as the intellectual outgrowth of the fact that several women had become feminists. Harris said the civil rights movement of the '60s led to a demand that the academy finally recognize the people who were excluded from mainstream history, literature and other academic subjects.

"We understood that we had been taught a very distorted version of the past," she said. "I don't think, certainly

yet, we're at a stage where in general people are made aware of the history of women. Ideally we should know something about it in the same way that we know something about the discovery of America and the Industrial Revolution."

However, it is not easy to simply integrate these missing chapters into the history books. "You can't teach everything," she said. "When you add something it means taking out or de-emphasizing other things. It's hard to get people who are traditionally trained and don't have a particular motive for changing the way they teach to actually do so."

When Harris arrived at the University in January, 1989, she started a feminist theory group with faculty members of both Duke and UNC. Harris is also involved in the N.C. Research Group of

Medieval Early Modern Women.

She is the president of the Berkshire Conference of Women Historians, the largest conference on women's history, and the third largest historical conference in the country.

"Most of my intellectual life centers around women's studies," she said. She is also writing a book on upper-class English women from 1450 to 1550.

Harris said women's history and women's studies were not important to women only. Considering all the problems with sexual assault and discrimination, it is even more important for men and women to understand each other, she said.

"Men live in a world with women, and if they're going to relate in a non-sexist, egalitarian way to women, they have to think about the same things women think about. Women cannot change their lives unless men change also.

"We talk all the time about making this a campus that is democratic and tolerant and equally comfortable for both men and women, white students and non-white students. In fact, thus far, we're not doing a terribly good job of it."

Harris said she felt Women's History Month was important "because one of the ways in which you devalue a group of people is by robbing them of their history. It says 'you've never done anything important and no one like you has.'"

The intention of Women's Studies, she said, was to transform the academic curriculum everywhere, not just in one discipline. The program strives to bring in life experiences of women from different classes and different ethnic groups.

Students at the University may major in Women's Studies through the interdisciplinary program. However, this is a complicated process that requires students to fill out special forms. Because Women's Studies is included in the interdisciplinary program, students are not allowed to double major.

"Therefore, we have relatively few majors, and it marginalizes Women's Studies because it means we don't stand in an equal relationship to other disciplines that are fully recognized."



DTH/Sarah King

Barbara Harris, Women's Studies director, says curriculum important at UNC

Harris said a double major including Women's Studies could expand job opportunities. For example, if a psychology major preferred to work with women, then a double major would help.

She said she thought the Women's Studies curriculum was the only discipline on campus with so much interest in affecting so many people but did not have its own degree.

In 1988 the College of Arts and Sciences forwarded General Administration a proposal to create an independent major for Women's Studies. This proposal has not yet been acted on.

"If there were a lot of support, we could have one of the five best Women's Studies programs in the country ... it is

exceedingly frustrating," Harris said.

According to Donna Benson, the associate vice president for academic affairs, the proposal has been reviewed, and the administration is still considering what would be the best way to enable students in Women's Studies to double major. But, priority has been given to the problems associated with budget cuts that affect all classes.

For Women's History Month, the department is sponsoring a speakers' program including Linda Kerber, one of the nation's leading historians in women's history and Judith Walkowitz, director of Women's Studies at John Hopkins University. Activities also include a lunchtime colloquium with Tera Hunter of the UNC Department of History.

in • come n 1: a coming in 2: a gain or recurrent, benefit usu. measured in money that derives from capital or labor; **also :** the amount of such gain received in a period of time

from Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary

The Daily Tar Heel is now accepting applications for Advertising Account Executives for the 1991-92 academic year. Stop by Suite 104 of the Carolina Union for more information and an application. Applications are due Monday, April 1, 1991.

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Campus Calendar

MONDAY

Noon: Novelist and critic Maryse Conde will lecture on "Africa On My Mind? The Presence of Africa in West Indian Creativity and Consciousness" in the Toy Lounge of Dey Hall until 1:30 p.m.

2 p.m. PC SAS session #1 is in 02 Manning Hall until 3:15. Taught by Jose Sandoval.

3 p.m. A Walk-In Exam Prep Clinic will be conducted Monday at the UNC Learning Skills Center until 4 p.m. in 104 Phillips Annex.

JOB HUNT 104: On-Site Interviewing Workshop will be held in 306 Hanes.

3:30 p.m. Internships 101: Introductory sessions on the basics of internships and experiential learning will be in 209 Hanes.

"Knowledge For What: Sociology and the North Carolina Legislature" by Paul Luebke of UNC-G and the N.C. General Assembly in 111 Murphey. Sponsored by the Undergraduate Sociology Club and the Department of Sociology. The public is invited.

4 p.m. SPSS PC+ session #1 is in 02 Manning Hall

until 5:15 p.m. Taught by Jose Sandoval.

A Walk-In Study Clinic will be conducted in the UNC Learning Skills Center by Dr. Victoria Faherty and Cristina Kelly until 5 p.m. in 104 Phillips Annex.

5 p.m. The American Advertising Federation will be meeting in 203 Howell. Bill Green will be speaking about life in the real world of advertising.

6 p.m. Graduate Dinner at the Presbyterian Student Center, 110 Henderson St.

Ven a la sobremesa si quives cenar y charlar con personas que tienen una interes en espanol. Esta cada lunes entre a los seis y siete en North Dining Room a Lenoir. Bienvenidos a todos.

The Unstead Committee of the Campus Y meets in the Campus Y's Resource Room (upstairs.)

Anyone interested in meeting a group of exciting people who enjoy engaging in high-spirited debate, come to the North Carolina Student Legislature meeting tonight and every Monday night in Union 226.

7:30 p.m. CGLA will be holding a forum with officials of the Department of University Housing about the experiences of gays and lesbians in University Housing. Gerrard Hall.

8:30 p.m. Come to a Great EASTER Celebration with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes-not just for athletes! Hear 1990 UNC Graduate, Jimmy Boggs, speak. Outer left end of Kenan Field House.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

The Special Projects Committee of the Union and Delta Sigma Theta sorority will present a student organized Spring Fashion Extravaganza on Tuesday, March 26 at 7 p.m. in The Great Hall. Tickets are \$3 for students and \$5 for the general public and all proceeds will be donated to the Clearinghouse Network on AIDS Research. A reception will follow. Tickets available at the Union desk.

Student Congress Candidates needed! Special Election Tuesday, March 26 to fill Student Congress Seats, Districts 3, 5, 9, and 10. Go by Suite A 215 B Union or call Mary Jo at 929-1397 for more information.

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Memory course helps students cut study time

by Anothoy Rao

Former University of Houston football coach Jack Pardee said it best: "This course was so helpful to several of my players, I made the whole football team take the course."

Pardee read about a memory seminar held by noted memory expert and teacher Alvin Jackson and sent three players who needed to pass some important tests in order to stay in school. Uncertain that anyone can be taught photographic memory, Pardee sent athletic department academic advisor Dr. Jim Berlow as an observer.

In one three hour session Mr. Jackson took three college freshmen, whose grades were so poor they were not allowed to practice football, and transformed them into students who can perform studying and recall tasks better than the brightest students on campus.

Since Dr. Berlow took part in the class, he admits his recall and memory increased sixfold. He wishes Jackson's course was available when he studied for his doctorate.

To test the athletes' increased memory skills, Jackson asked the trio to memorize this number, 91852719521639092112, well enough to recall it in thirteen weeks. It took them an average of two minutes. This reporter attended the same seminar and witnessed them master German, Pharmacy, Anatomy, names and faces, and Microbiological charts after looking at it once.

What impressed this writer the most is how Jackson's memory techniques are used in reading and listening. Jackson used an economics text book and I watched as the freshman read and recalled a whole chapter on "Macroeconomic Effects on a Fully Employed Economy" after reading it once!

"Contrary to belief, no one is born with photographic memory, but it can be taught. I have taught thousands in the last 12 years. I have taught it to those wanting to use it to increase their G.P.A. to those with perfect G.P.S.s who wish to cut their study time in half while maintaining high grades," Jackson said.

"85% of our education is memorization, the rest is application and logic. I will show you how to read your textbooks, history, anatomy, economics, pharmacy and business ONCE, and know it so well you will be able to recall it by page number or tuition is free," Jackson added.

"I know 321 memory techniques and teach my students the one that fits them best including card counting and verbatim for law and acting. Right now students use the "Rote" memory technique. Under "Rote" students are told to go over and over what they wish to learn. As far as I am concerned "Rote" is technique number 321. I have 320 better techniques. What student has that much time to repeat information enough times to maintain top grades. A student has nothing to lose by taking my course. I will teach them techniques to read it once and know it by paragraph and page number, or the class is free, absolutely," says Jackson confidently.

Jackson will be at the Carolina Inn North Parlor, Thursday March 28 FOR TWO CLASSES 1PM and 6PM. STUDENTS ARE ASKED TO BRING CLASS TEXTBOOKS WHICH THEY WOULD LIKE TO MEMORIZE.

The tuition for the 3 1/2 hour session is \$55.00, all materials including workbook is provided.

Jackson's class comes with a strong "results or else" guarantee. If he cannot double your memory capacity and teach you by the end of class to recall your textbooks by page number after one reading, the tuition is refunded immediately. Learning memory techniques is like riding a bicycle, once you know them they will last you the rest of your life.

Because of the personal attention required to teach his techniques, he can only accept 30 persons in each section on a first come first served basis.

Registration is easy, leave your name and time you would like to attend at 1 (800) 462-8207.

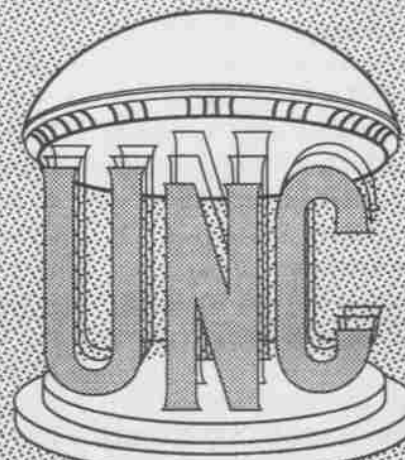
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