

INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS.

The Summer Semester of 1983 will mark the twelfth year that Simon Fraser University has offered the Summer Institute in Environmental Education. This unique program offers students the opportunity to expand their awareness and understanding of the total human environment, while developing their skills in problem solving, decision-making, and information management.

We are living in an era of extremely rapid change. New technologies offer great opportunities, but also present grave problems. While we may have space age tools we may attempt to use them with outmoded or faulty styles of thinking. Many adults and young people alike are finding that it is necessary for them to adjust to conditions which they were untrained to meet via their schooling or general life experience. The redefinition of work, the need for constant, lifelong learning, the requirement of coping with changed and changing economic conditions, dramatically shifted relationships between the sexes and between different age classes in society are but a few of the opportunities and problems which confront us.

Up to this point in time there has been a tendancy to treat each problem separately, and as an isolated phenomenon. Hence, the concerns over the environment were unrelated to human rights, world armaments, cultural pluralism, or changing life styles, at least in the minds of many. The application of piece-meal band-aid solutions to various problems has often stressed the "quick fix" at the expense of more fundamental problem solving.

It is the purpose of the Summer Institute to help adults explore ways of developing thinking styles and skills which are more appropriate to the last phase of the twentieth century and to the beginnings of the twenty-first. There are several ways in which the program attempts to accomplish this goal:

- -the program places students and instructors in an intensive residential format in which time can be used more effectively and in which ideas can be pursued to greater depth;
- -the program creates a learning community in which students and instructors meet people with many different sorts of training, experience, cultural backgrounds, and values--- an on-going exchange of ideas is fostered and promoted;

- -the program is highly experiential in nature: the course is located in a community context and it endeavours to explore that context fully, providing students with urban, rural, and wilderness experiences and with the opportunity to explore aspects of the natural and mankind-made environment with which they may be unfamiliar;
- -the program stresses personal, interpersonal, and environmental awareness, attempting to help people develop the ability to use their senses and minds fully, employing many different modalities of learning;
- -the program works to help students build their knowledge and skills concerning ways in which they can work more effectively to help other humans develop their own thinking capacities--whether they intend to work with the young, adolescent, or adult segments of society;
- -the program stresses personal development by encouraging students to use the one month institute as an opportunity to widen horizons, or to focus on specific concerns and needs.
- -the program is interdisciplinary in approach, examining the world through the lenses of the arts, humanities, sciences, and technologies.

WHO MAY ENROL?

The program is open to any interested person who can qualify for admission as a Student at Simon Fraser University, under one of the university's categories of admission. It is typically taken by students in the Professional Development Program as part of their Summer Semester, Education 404. It is also taken by practicing teachers, Outdoor Recreationists, students in Environmental Studies, Community Education, and Resources Management. It has been taken by persons of all ages, from 21 to 67, and of all types of previous experience and interests. While a major component of the program does address ways in which teachers and prospective teachers (in public schools or other settings) can become more effective, student projects are highly individualized to meet the needs of persons working in a variety of settings.

WHAT IS THE PROGRAM FORMAT?

Typically the program is offered in a residential, short-course style. This means that the students and staff live and work in a Secondary School during the non-operational summer vacation period. The school is used both as a residence and teaching facility. Many of the regular course activities occur away from the school base, in the field, in urban or wilderness settings. In past summers, for example, the program has involved work at the McQueen Lake Environmental Study Center, near Kamloops, at the Native Environmental School, in Jervis Inlet, and at the Strathcona Park Outdoor Education Center. The Institute has been based in Kamloops, Sooke, Sechelt, Pender Harbour, and North Vancouver, varying from year to

year according to the availability of suitable locations. Negotiations are still under way concerning the location of the program during 1983.

The program is intensive. It begins as soon as possible after July 1 and is thirty days in length. Students are given free weekends as much as possible, along with other periods of free time. However, the program does not always operate on a nine-to-five schedule. The demands of various field experiences take priority at various times. Hence, a student may spend a night working in an emergency ward or with a night shift cab driver or on coastal island during the complete tidal cycle, or get up at dawn to observe birds. However, all student assignments and requirements are complete at the end of the program (typically August 1 or 2.)

Students enrolled in the Professional Development Program should note that the Institute consists of two Four semester Hour Credit courses, Education 452-4 and 462-4. Thus, it meets one half of their credit needs for Education 404. A typical 404 student will take eight semester hours of other course work during INTERSESSION (May and June). A P.D.P. student may pre-register for the two courses in the summer institute as part of their normal registration process. Other students may register for the program as part of the SUMMER SESSION offerings. Students who have not previously attended S.F.U. must apply for admission, as an undergraduate or Special Student.

All prospective applicants should complete the Application Questionnaire for the Summer Institute. The questionnaire assists us to plan the program and also is used to select applicants should the numbers of people applying exceed our capacity. A typical enrolment is $\underline{44}$ students.

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL TRAINING OR EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS?

Although the program does entail some Outdoor Recreational experiences, many of its activities are urban in nature. A good basic set of outdoor clothing is needed, with good walking boots. A sleeping bag, pack, and pad are also needed for overnight excursions. SFU does have some equipment which can be loaned to students, especially packs and raingear.

Previous training and experience in Outdoor Recreation, Science, Environmental Studies, or Outdoor Education are not required.

WHAT ARE THE COSTS?

Students pay regular SFU tuition, for credit courses. Students enrolled in the PDP pay for the courses as part of their regular fees for Education 404. In addition, there is a Field Activity Fee which helps to cover the costs of field travel during the program (bus charters, vessel transport, special equipment, etc.) Students are organized in to "family" cooking groups in residence, and so they plan and budget their own meal costs. Accommodation in the schools is kept as modest as possible in cost— typically it is \$25.00/month. Given the current economic conditions we will do everything possible to contain costs to participants.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Write to: Dr. Milton McClaren, Faculty of Education,
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