

Students set own pace in psychology course

By ART BUSHNELL
Of the Emerald

"The teaching methods that will be used in Psychology 212 will be different from those to which you have been accustomed."

With this line from the introductory sheet to his course, Prof. William Sheppard sums up the techniques utilized in his introductory course in the Psychology of Learning.

Sheppard's course is quite a departure from the normal large-lecture introductory course.

The course is not tightly structured around reading assignments and midterms.

Instead, the student is allowed to progress at his own rate. The amount of progress each student makes in the course's textbook determines his grade. If the book is completely finished, the student receives an A, half-way completed a C.

Sheppard outlines the further reasons for the unique class structure, "Traditional teaching methods involving lectures and infrequent examinations often violate much of what we know about how to arrange the most efficient conditions for learning to take place. In the design of a course that utilizes some of the basic principles of learning it is necessary to employ a different method of instruction."

Students do not simply read the book.

They must discuss what they have read with another student or with a graduate student teaching assistant. After a student adequately discusses a part of the text, he must also listen to another student discuss the same portion.

In this way each student spends most of his class time working on a one-to-one basis.

"This course will attempt to provide individualized instruction within the framework of education," says the introduction to the class.

As each student progresses at his own rate through the course, there will be no penalty for a section of the reading he doesn't understand. He simply goes over the material until he knows what the book says. As the introduction says, "... each version must

be passed at a high level of competence."

Besides providing a new method of instruction, Sheppard feels the setup of the course has another advantage.

He feels that the utilized method is one which results in much more retention than massed learning.

"It takes time to incorporate

new concepts and much learning goes on between study times when you think over course materials casually. Also spaced learning allows for a leisurely approach to learning in which there is time to mull over a matter, consider a problem and apply the knowledge to one's own life or course," explains the course introduction.

Biafra statement set by Nigerian students

Nigerian University students plan to have a nine-point statement in circulation today, outlining their position on the recent end of the 32-month-old civil war between Nigeria and Biafra.

The Eugene chapter of the Nigerian Students' Union in the Americas (NSUA) has issued a statement supporting constructive reconciliation and peace between the two countries.

The statement will be used to clarify the Eugene group's views on the war and hopefully to start formal reconciliation meetings with University Biafran students.

NSUA of Eugene has about 36 members who have maintained social contact with the five or six Biafran University students during the war.

The statement maintains that Federal Nigeria was only left the option of a military victory after other strategies to end the war failed and that victory was neces-

sary to save the lives of the remaining Biafrans.

Nigerian students in the U.S. plan to launch a drive to readmit Biafran students to the NSUA, according to the statement.

Chinese begin new publication

A new publication has appeared on campus.

This publication, printed in Chinese, will be the official publication of the Chinese Student Association at the University.

The name of the periodical, The Sound of Rain or Rainy Sound is taken from a pair of parallel sentences in the Ming Dynasty (A.D. 1368-1644).

Another reason for choosing the name, according to the publication, is because rain is a characteristic of Oregon weather and so represents the University.

The main purpose of the publication is to use it as a communication tool which bridges the gap between students and Chinese. It is also a place where Chinese students can sound off their ideas, suggestions, complaints and grievances.

The first issue of the periodical includes news items of the association, items of interest from Taiwan and Hong Kong, editorial policy of the publication and some feature stories.

The publisher, editor and staff are all students from either Taiwan and Hong Kong. There are more than 230 Chinese students at the University from these two places.

The next issue of the publication will come out on Feb. 4.

Trial begins today for Panther leader

Black Panther Tommy Anderson will go on trial at 10 a.m. today in circuit court on a charge of assault with intent to kill. Anderson was arrested through a grand jury indictment Nov. 14 and accused of shooting Lawrence Wilfred Wells Jr. of 1705 E. 15th in the arm on Oct. 26.

He was arrested during the November Moratorium activities. Defense lawyer is Keith Morrow and prosecution lawyer is J. Pat Horton.

Concert to feature Richards Quintet

The Richards Quintet, a wind chamber ensemble, will give a concert at 8 p.m. today in the School of Music Recital Hall sponsored by the ASUO Cultural Division.

The quintet, which makes frequent international appearances, will feature Peter Mueller, Jean-Michel Damase, Hans Werner Henze and Walter Piston.

Price of admission is \$2 for University students and faculty and \$2.50 for others.

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