

Sociology course explores rape, violence

Class integrates academia, activism



Trudy Cooper

Photo by Erich Boekelheide

By MARIAN GREEN
Of the Emerald

Self-defense courses taught at the University now are being augmented with a sociology course that focuses on violent crimes against women.

The course, Women and Men: Love and Violence, is co-sponsored by the sociology department and the YWCA.

Instructor Trudy Cooper of the YWCA says the idea for the course arose from "a strongfelt need to understand, fully, rape in more comprehensive terms."

The 400-level Sociology course reflects that "the issue of violence is increasingly important in the sociology of deviants and sex crimes," Cooper says.

Though the class was filled by noon the second day of registration, Cooper says the class now has room for more students to enroll.

"The class integrates academic knowledge with recent questions activists have raised about the increasing incidence of rape in our society."

In addition, Cooper says the class will study theoretical applications of violent crimes.

"We'll look at what the causes are and how they relate to issues of class, power and racism," Cooper says. "We'll look at the social continuum of violent crimes against women, beginning with societal images of femininity, in the middle with institutionalized violence such as media representation, psychiatric and medical policy, and with harassment, assault and rape at the furthest extreme."

The class includes film and slide show presentations, large and small group discussions, readings and a project or term paper.

After the class's first meeting, students discussed why they were taking the class.

One male student said he took the class because "I'm living with a woman, and I feel strange about how far my role goes."

"I'm glad I came," Terry Eden, a psychology major said. "I'm interested in the coercion aspect and trying to get others to recognize it."

Another woman said she'd been raped and wanted other women and men to understand that it's an act of violence not an act of sex.

Department neglects potential voluntary wildlife donations

By HARRY ESTEVE
Of the Emerald

Local environmentalists say they're concerned with the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Department's handling of contributions from 1979 income tax refunds despite the "surprising success" of the special non-game protection fund.

Steve Gilbert, who helped introduce the bill that created the check-off fund, says the wildlife department has been less than enthusiastic about receiving the more than \$300,000 Oregon residents contributed from their 1979 state income tax refunds.

The wildlife department neglected to apply for federal matching funds, Gilbert says, which has resulted in the loss of money that may have been available for endangered species protection.

"They don't seem to want to put out the effort," Gilbert says. "I got the feeling that we went

out and got this money for them, and now they don't want it.

"Without the federal matching money, it (the check-off fund) will remain just a token gesture."

In the past, the department has been slow to initiate non-game wildlife programs and has placed too much emphasis on hunting and fishing management, he says.

Oregon wildlife supporters again will have a chance to contribute to the special non-game protection fund when they complete their 1980 state income tax forms with \$1, \$3 or \$5 donations.

Wildlife department officials say they did not apply for federal money because there was no assurance the money would be available. And although the department did not apply for matching funds under the Endangered Species Act, Oregon will qualify for federal non-game

wildlife funds available in October, says program head Frank Newton.

Spending the money they do have presents another problem. Because of the program's biennial budgetary system, the \$300,000 contributions collected last year cannot be spent until next July.

Newton says once the money does become available, it will be used primarily for research and inventory of non-game species such as the kit fox, the great grey owl and the ring-tail cat.

Calling last year's check-off fund "a surprising success," Newton is wary about predicting how much his department can expect this year.

"Don't look for it to be quite that much this year," he says. "Money is tight, and people may not want to reduce the amount of their tax refunds."

Students get, give grades

Distribution of fall term grades at Oregon Hall has been a success this week — thanks to student volunteers, says Registrar Wanda Johnson.

The registrar's office saved about \$4,000 by having students pick up their grades instead of mailing them, Johnson says.

Grades were mailed to those students who weren't returning — because of graduation or other reasons. Likewise, grades will be mailed to all non-returning student following winter term. Grades will be mailed to all students following spring term, Johnson said.

About 60 percent of students have picked up their grades so far, and although there have been "wall-to-wall" students on the second floor of Oregon Hall,

Johnson says the distribution has gone smoothly — thanks to the "excellent help from volunteers."

Johnson suggested discontinuing the mailing of grades when Associate Provost for Student Affairs Gerry Mosely asked department heads for money-saving suggestions. The registrar's office has had to make due with a 15-percent cut in the budget for services and supplies like all other University departments.

Although this is the first time the University has not mailed out grades in Johnson's 19 years in the office, she says it is not unusual at other colleges and universities.

The cut in service helps to "keep people working," Johnson says.

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