

Learning center offers aid

By STEVE KNIGHT
Of the Emerald

Each year, 33 percent of the University's freshmen class drop out, while 46 percent never make it to their senior year.

Dave Hubin, learning resources director, has a simple answer for why the University has such a high attrition rate.

"Many students come to the University without the proper learning skills and study approaches necessary to function well at a major research university," he says.

"In many cases, students enter without accurately anticipating the differences between secondary and higher education."

Hubin says the Learning Resources Center, a division of the arts and sciences college, offers the course Introduction to University Study to help freshmen make the transition from high school to college.

The class — ALS 101 — covers effective listening and note-taking techniques and the academic skills necessary to analyze assigned reading material. The course also goes over the differences between

book reports, book reviews and critiques.

In addition, the course helps inform students about their major field of study and what resources are available to them at the University.

"Many students come here and wallow around for a year or so without any clear direction or understanding of how the University operates," Hubin says.

"(In ALS 101) we work with students individually, helping them with the curriculum and requirements at the University."

The resource center offers other helpful programs for undergraduates and graduates. The following non-accredited courses, workshops and tutorial services are taught during either the summer or fall term.

- The Least You Should Know About Grammar, offered in the fall, is for students who find themselves stumbling through a minefield of dangling participles and split infinitives.

Hubin says this is a "back to basics" course that goes over word usage, parts of speech, punctuation and even "the lost art of diagramming."

- Speed Reading is designed to help students read at faster rates while improving comprehension and retention. This program and all of the following are offered this term.

- Study Techniques is a month-long workshop designed to help students establish an approach to studying that is consistent with an instructor's expectations. The course also helps the student build skills in course analysis, efficient textbook reading, exam preparation and vocabulary development.

Graduate Entrance Exam Preparation, beginning June 29 and running until August 27, offers three four-week workshops preparing graduates for the GRE, LSAT or GMAT tests.

All programs cost \$30. For more information, call the resource center at 686-3226.

Enrollment drops slightly this term

Summer term enrollment dipped slightly, according to June 22 enrollment figures.

5,117 students annually have filed registration or pre-registration materials — a 1-percent decrease from last year's count of 5,177, says summer session director Clarence Schminke.

However, more than 7,000 students are expected to register by the end of the term, Schminke says.

"At this point we're doing about as well as last year," he says. "I wouldn't be surprised if we wind up with about 7,200 students by the end of the term."

The added enrollment will come from late registrations for workshops and short courses that are offered throughout summer term in addition to regular eight and 11-week classes.

A number of new courses and special activities will be offered during the second half of summer school, Schminke says, including numerous weekend courses for people who want a concentrated dose of information about a particular subject.

Also scheduled is a July 21-24 conference on the socialization of children that is being sponsored by the education college. Ashley Montagu, an internationally known anthropologist and author, is among the invited speakers.

New games workshop Sunday

A New Games workshop will be held at Alton Baker Park from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday.

New Games, created in Seattle several years ago, represent "a movement toward non-competitive recreation where anyone can play," says organizer Cheri Nautel.

Different ages and ability levels — including the handicapped — can play together, Nautel says, because everyone cooperates to involve the entire group. The games are organized and revised by a referee and participants as they are played — rules can change and players can change sides, she says.

Because all the games require cooperation, participants should be more interested in playing than winning, Nautel says.

Activities will include playing prui — which Nautel describes as "a game of oneness in which individuals end up as one big group hooked together" — and keeping a five-foot stuffed earth ball up in the air.

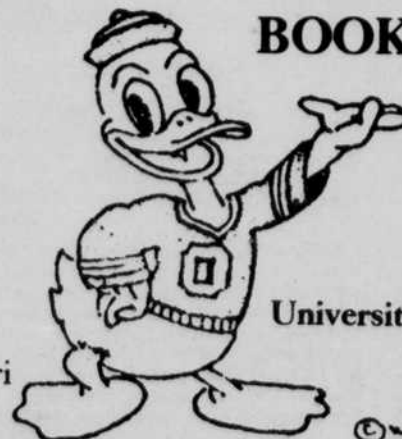
The free workshop is being held to publicize the Eighth International Human Unity Conference to be held in British Columbia July 23-26. The Eugene council, which formed in September, will have a booth at the park for anyone interested in human unity, but "we won't be doing any big speeches or anything," Nautel says.

Workshop participants or people interested in human unity should call Gib Curry at 686-1840 for more information.

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