

Summer session changes pace

The UO atmosphere during the summer is relaxed and low-key

By Tricia Duryee
Community Reporter

When the last final is taken and there are no more papers to turn in and the lease on your apartment is up, perhaps the only thing left to do is to get out of here.

For the majority of students, living and attending school in Eugene is seasonal by nature. The normal practice for many of the University's 16,900 students is to leave for the summer as soon as school ends.

Even the campus security has an opportunity to relax.

Agent Rob Olson of the University's Office of Public Safety said the staff will be cut back from four officers and one sergeant to just two officers.

Olson said there just isn't a demand during the summer.

"Less trouble equals less calls," he said.

Ironically enough, when students leave they may be missing out on some of the best things Eugene has to offer.

The out-flux of people creates an atmosphere that can only be fathomed by a small amount of people in the University area, who are left working or attending summer school.

Maybe it is a secret that the small number of summer students, who have already enrolled, are not sharing with the rest of us.

"There's only 7,000 people op-

posed to 17,000," said Ron Trebon, director of summer session. "The campus pace is slower. The classes are the same, but it's a different atmosphere."

Some of the things Trebon said he finds unique during the summer months is seeing classes taught outside.

Even though Trebon said there are many desirable things about the summer session, attendance is down because of the healthy economy.

"It's down by 300," he said. "There are so many jobs that students are taking advantage of."

However, some of the perks for students who do stay this summer include: available parking spots, smaller crowds in bars and experimental classes.

Possibly the only drawback during the summer is that the Oregon Daily Emerald is published twice weekly.

To take advantage of the unfamiliar oasis of summer life in Eugene, summer school is a viable excuse. Not only is it a good reason for your parents to throw down the bucks to further your education, but there's also a chance of receiving financial aid. Additionally, students can expect rental housing rates to drop. Also, residence halls tend to have more flexible leases during the summer months.

During the summer term, the University provides unique classes that start all summer long. Trebon said there are two main sessions but that summer school has few restraints.

"Summer school is unique. The courses are a variety of

lengths and start and end all summer long," he said. "Week-end classes are also available."

One of the newer programs that the University is offering is the "September Experience."

Trebon said it runs for 10 days in September. Students can take as many as nine credits and attend class from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and again in the afternoon.

There are a variety of reasons why students attend the summer session, Trebon said. One reason is that it is a prime time to catch up on credit hours or to get ahead. However, Trebon said the classes are not necessarily easier.

"The classes are compressed and the students work very hard," Trebon said. "You may be in a class three hours a day, but you cover the same content at an accelerated and compressed pace."

There is also an extra incentive for out-of-state and international students, as well as community members. No one has to go through an admissions process and non-residents are only charged an additional \$30 for every credit.

Trebon said undergraduates usually take nine to 10 credits, while graduate students take six to seven credits on average.

He said it is never too late to sign up for classes because there are always new classes starting.

He said he finds the summer session to be a worthwhile product packaged within a good environment.

"It's a nice mix," Trebon said. "[The summer session] is a small portion of the usual microcosm."



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