

Changes for auto classes

Courtney O'Byrne

The Clackamas Print

In order to meet the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation's requirements and keep their accreditation, the Clackamas automotive department has expanded their Winter Term brakes and chassis class.

The class will still meet twice a week from 7:30 a.m. to 2:50 p.m., but will now be worth seven credits, instead of just four. The first half of the term focuses on brake systems while the second focuses on chassis.

"We've wanted to change for a long time - maybe 10 or 12 years - but weren't allowed to because of credit numbers," full-time Instructor Nick Miller said. "We met with the curriculum committee to make the brakes class a seven-credit, two-day class."

The NATEF tells Clackamas what they need to be teaching to adequately prepare automotive students for ASE certification.

Completing Clackamas' automotive program counts as one year toward ASE certification, and participating in CWE can count as the second. Before the expansion most students didn't have enough time to cover important systems like steering and four-wheel drive.

Students weren't getting quite enough out of the align-



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Students examine a chassis during an automotive class. With the expanded classes, the automotive department feels it can help students even more.

ment unit either, since there were about 20 students for every two alignment machines.

Because of such obstacles the Clackamas Automotive Department has been creating additional classes to supplement existing classes, like the engine modification night-class.

The automotive department has been working hard to attract the interest of non-automotive

majors as well, even taking into consideration the possibility of evening seminars on suspension components, such as lowering, rising and general knowledge of the system.

"We've been talking about a diagnostics class or a diesel technology class, but they're just possibilities," Miller said. "Fix Your Own Car" is an example of what I call 'self-interest classes.' We also offer

collision repair and refinishing for non-automotive majors."

"We're pretty excited. I feel like we can serve our students a lot better," Miller said. "It's great to finally see this coming through and we're thankful for everyone's work and support."

For more information about classes being offered Winter Term call department secretary Pam Brown at 503-657-6958, ext. 2354.

Clothes closet helps students dress for success

Courtney O'Byrne

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Thanks to the ASG's new clothes closet drive struggling students will now be able to wear snazzy, professional-looking clothes to job interviews.

The ASG held the drive from Nov. 14 - 18, and brought in five bags of clothing. Although

officers said the outcome of the drive wasn't as impressive as expected, the event got the word out about other clothing drives to come.

Clothes Closet Senator Hillary Fletcher planned and led the event, which was initiated in order to help the Work Force in Action students acquire appropriate clothing for interviews and first days at work. Work Force in Action is

geared toward getting jobs for students.

ASG Childcare Office Senator Tiffany Kimmel is glad that students and staff showed such interest in the event.

"Eventually, we hope to accept all clothing and be able to help all students," Kimmel said. "We thought it'd be a great way to help students young and old."

The desired items of clothing are articles appropriate for interviews, as well as less-formal dress clothes for first days at new jobs. Right now the greatest need for office wear is in the young adult category.

Anyone can bring in the clothing, and ASG members are more than willing to write out receipts for tax returns.

"We want to do a few big drives to really get awareness out to the staff and students ... and we will take shoes!" said Kimmel.

The ASG has yet to decide how the clothing will be distributed, though they are considering creating an application process to see who gets the clothes.

Feel free to contact the ASG officers with any questions at their office in the Bill Brod Community Center, or call ext. 5345.

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TREE:
 Raises
 questions,
 concerns

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According to Brown, there's always space available in the Community Center for other groups or individuals who want to share their holiday traditions or beliefs, they feel alienated by the tree.

It's not just a student issue," said Bill Zeulke, head of counseling and advising. "It's a faculty and staff issue, too. The tree is for entire community ... As a public institution we want to make sure we include everybody and respect different ways people approach the holidays."

"We shouldn't tell students that they should do this or that," he added. "They're adults, but I think they should have a strong sense of the impact of their choices in this community and ask themselves, 'How can we make sure everyone feels welcome?' Of course we can't do that in all circumstances, but it's a good question to ask."

CAMPUS EVENTS & NEWS

There is a **Fall Band Concert** tomorrow at 8:30 p.m. in the LeRoy Anderson Band Room of the Niemeyer Center. For more information call the Music Department at 503-657-6958, ext. 2344.

Finals week is next week. We're all dead. See the finals schedule on the back page.

School is officially over on Dec. 10. Don't come back until Jan. 9, 2006.

Did you pass your class? Fail miserably? Fall Term grades are available Dec. 14 on your CougarTrax account.

The Clackamas Repertory Theatre's production of "A Christmas Carol" begins next week. See the preview on page 6.

The college will be closed for the winter break Dec. 23 - 30 and for New Years on Jan. 2.