

NEWS RELEASE

NEW COLLEGE

SARASOTA, FLORIDA 33578

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Three five-week discussion groups in philosophy, literature, and religion, led by advanced students, will be offered to the public at New College on Monday evenings beginning February 12.

Called "Dialogues in the Humanities" by its student originators, the three seminars will run concurrently and are directed to the interests of the adult community.

Program coordinator Jerry Neugarten, a third-year student, said the seminars are being offered so that the New College students may involve themselves in the community.

Each of the classes will be organized on a seminar basis with registration limited to 20 members. A moderate registration fee will be charged plus the cost of the textbooks for each class.

Leading the seminars will be third-year students Noella (Lee) Wallingford, literature; John H. Peters, philosophy; and Dale Hickam, religion. Each student instructor was chosen by a faculty member in the field of specialization.

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Neugarten said that during the five weeks in each area, the students will attempt to cover some of the most interesting ideas in each field rather than to try to survey the entire field, which would require considerably more time.

Faculty members will sit in on the initial sessions as advisors to the groups.

In the field of literature, Lee Wallingford, a senior from Ogden, Utah, will lead discussions on Henry James, Joseph Conrad, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemingway and Aldous Huxley on the question, "What happens when innocence encounters experience?" Lee's field of study has been the novel and she is doing her senior thesis on one of Faulkner's works. She hopes to do graduate work in literature.

John Peters, a member of the charter class who recently won a prize for his paper presented at the Florida Philosophical Association, will lead discussions on the themes of perception, appearance and reality, truth and falsehood, and intuitive and scientific knowledge, as well as the more general problem of the value of philosophy. John, son of a Notre Dame Law School professor, hopes to do graduate work at Yale.

In the field of religion, the faculty nominated a third-year student, Dale Hickam, who plans to enter a theological seminary at graduation in June. "We need to know what religion is before we can use it to best advantage," he says, and he will invite investigation of writings of sociologist Peter Berger and philosopher Albert Camus. Dale is from Kingsport, Tenn. and at New College has been broadly trained in religion, sociology, psychology and literature.

Anyone interested in participating in one of the three classes may register by calling Neugarten at 355-5703 or by asking for Humanities Dialogue at 355-7131.

Registration costs for the five sessions will be \$3. Each session begins at 7:30 p.m. in one of the classrooms in Hamilton Center and normally will end at 9:00 p.m.

Formation of the courses came at the suggestion of Dr. Victor L. Butterfield, president of Wesleyan University and a trustee of New College, said Neugarten.

After his appointment as head of a student committee on community relations, Neugarten appeared before a meeting of the board of trustees to discuss student hopes in the area of community relations. Dr. Butterfield suggested that student-taught courses in other university and college communities had been remarkably successful in providing an educational stimulus and in helping to improve community-college relations.