Swarthmore College

Curriculum Offerings in Black Studies

1968-69

Economics

Social Economics course (Marcus Alexis): the economics of race, discrimination and poverty; comparative educational, housing, and health patterns, consumption patterns in center city areas, programs for dealing with urban poverty. Dr. Alexis, a nationally known Negro economist, is Professor of Economics, School of Business Administration, University of Rochester.

Labor course (Frank Pierson): sections of course deal with employment and unemployment in urban centers, movement of labor from rural to urban areas, discrimination in hiring and promotion policies, black worker career patterns, private and public manpower development programs.

Labor and Social Economics seminar (Frank Pierson and Frederic Pryor): several weeks on the foregoing topics.

History

African History course and seminar (Harrison Wright):

American History courses and seminars (Robert Bannister and James Field):

The general courses in American history and the American history
seminar deal with selected issues in this area.

Colloquium on special area (Harrison Wright): e.g., last year's colloquium on South Africa.

Political Science

Politics of Urban Ghetto course (Paul Lutzker and Alvin Echols):
According to Mr. Lutzker, "The course is conceived of as a confrontation of the general concepts and theoretical approaches of the discipline with the concerns of people involved in community organization. In what ways can confrontation with concrete problems clarify the ambiguities of the discipline's formulations of general principles? In what ways can the work of academics aid community action organizations in understanding the nature of the decision-making process they are trying to influence or alter?" Mr. Echols, an active leader in the Philadelphia Black Community, is head of the North City Congress.

Politics of Africa course (Raymond Hopkins)

Other courses and seminars, such as Political Development, Political Sociology, and Politics and Legislation, bear on this general area.

Psychology .

A number of courses, including Psychology of Attitudes, Social Psychology of Social Issues, and Problems in Urban Education, bear on this general area.

Sociology and Anthropology

Courses:

Societies and Cultures of Africa (Asmarom Legesse)
Race and Ethnic Relations in the U.S. (Jon Van Til)
Social Change (Robert Mitchell): in studying theories and case studies of social change, special attention is given in this course to the modernization process in Africa.
Cities and Society (Jon Van Til)

Seminars:

Race and Culture (Jon Van Til) Urban Sociology (Jon Van Til)