



6-4-1971

New Raymond College Curriculum

Raymond College

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/raymond-college>

Recommended Citation

Raymond College, "New Raymond College Curriculum" (1971). *Raymond College*. 173.
<https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/raymond-college/173>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Colleges and Schools at Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Raymond College by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact mgibney@pacific.edu.

THE NEW RAYMOND COLLEGE CURRICULUM

Beginning fall term, 1971, Raymond will introduce a new curriculum which we believe to be both exciting and innovative. This course of study will maintain Raymond's commitment to broad liberal arts studies while at the same time providing maximum opportunity for students to select courses which will enable them to pursue independent lines of creative development.

In order to ensure the optimum effectiveness of this new program we have adopted a "3-1-3" calendar which will consist of a fall semester and a spring semester during which three courses will be considered a normal load. In addition, there will be a January interim term of one month during which students will take one course, an independent study or seminar. This new calendar will facilitate interlocking programs between Raymond, Callison and College of the Pacific, where pre-professional specialization can be obtained, and will also permit students to take part in open interim programs given by numerous other universities which now feature a similar interim term.

Graduation requirements will now consist of successful completion of 21 courses and the approval of the faculty. It is expected that many students will complete their studies for the Bachelor of Arts degree in three years. It is the view of this college that intensive study in an environment which stimulates intellectual work and creative activity will allow students to accomplish in three years what is usually done in four under less propitious circumstances. We further recognize, however, the additional responsibility this places upon the student to be self-motivating and consider this a prime value of the college.

The freshman program at Raymond is unique. Freshman who desire it may do all their work in a novel area of the curriculum. This program, Exploration and Inquiry, or, as we call it less formally, study in the "embryo," proceeds on the assumption that introductory college work must closely parallel the student's general emotional and intellectual development, in short, the growth of his identity. Consequently, students doing this course will have the opportunity to participate with faculty in the formation of a large number of small study groups to investigate various topics dictated only by mutual interests. Students will affiliate with any number of groups, with the understanding that affiliation will entail certain responsibilities, reading, discussion, the presentation of creative work, and so forth. The program will be open ended in this sense. After the first week, however, regularly scheduled hours will be kept by each group. The length of time each group maintains its existence will depend upon its value and how far its work leads. Some will last the duration of the term, others only a few weeks. In this study emphasis will be upon the pursuit of those interests the student brings with him to the college. He will keep a portfolio of all his work writing, art objects, journals, exercises, whatever, and will engage in periodic self-evaluation. The determination of the course weight of his achievement, to the maximum of three courses per term, will be made by himself and be subject to scrutiny by a committee of faculty and students working in the freshman program. Students may take up to a year in this program under some circumstances. As seniors, they will have the opportunity to conduct group inquiries themselves, instructing younger students in the Freshman program for independent study credit.

The second step in the curriculum will be the Area courses. Freshman who want to, may go at once into these courses, omitting the Exploration and Inquiry

program. These courses will be given in four areas: Environment, Society and Community, Arts and Media, and Human Development and the Self. In many cases they will involve consideration of the subject matter of group inquiries made earlier, now in a more formal and structured fashion. In other instances they might involve a method or technique, in mathematics, economics, technical subjects in the natural and social sciences, or in the arts. The orientation to subject matter will in part determine under which area a course or subject will be taught. All area courses will be at least somewhat interdisciplinary and many will be team taught by professors from different disciplines. Of the total of 21 courses required for graduation, 12 shall be area courses. The area courses offered each term will probably differ; courses which prove particularly useful and popular will be repeated. Students may take more than 12 area courses; they will be encouraged to choose them on the basis of two criteria: They should take courses which allow them to pursue continuing interests and they should take a distribution of courses which will acquaint them with a broad spectrum of knowledge. In all cases students will be urged to integrate their study as closely as possible. There will be no single course required.

For students who take the minimum of 12 area courses, or some total less than 21, the balance will be made up of independent studies, seminars, and internships. Three of these courses will be taken in the January interim term. Here, the student will be encouraged to take part in independent studies, special projects, travel courses, and a host of other possibilities.

Internship programs are a special offering of Raymond College. These are designed to take the students into a variety of work-study situations off the campus which will serve as a bridge from the college community to the larger society.

In the coming year, we will have students placed in such organizations as the United States Congress, the national political party headquarters, the model cities program, and the state legislature. One pre-medical student will be in a program in a large New York hospital.

We believe that Raymond's new curriculum will serve the needs of contemporary students in a way that will effectively recognize both individual differences and common needs. Its possibilities are virtually unlimited for the creative student, and for those who desire a more prescriptive and structured course of study such will be available.

in
6/4/71