



Speaking of Kansas

WASHBURN CENTER FOR KANSAS STUDIES SPRING 2002

Minor in Kansas Studies expands

Washburn University offers students a unique opportunity to study about Kansas. Students can learn about the archeology, ecology, literature, folklore, government, history, movies, media, geography, geology and art while earning the minor in Kansas Studies.

The minor is interdisciplinary and includes courses taught in 12 different disciplines. The list of Kansas courses is included in the WU class schedule each semester, and the minor is described in the Washburn University Catalog.

To complete the minor in Kansas Studies, a student must complete 15 hours of Kansas Studies courses, with at least six of the hours at the upper division level. Barbara Burgess will advise students and certify that a student has successfully met the requirements for this minor. She can be contacted at (785)231-1010 x 1801 or burgess@washburn.edu.

Three Kansas Studies courses are being offered in the Fall 2002 and one in the summer session. They are:

Fall 2002

GG 302 Kansas Geography

TR 1 to 2:15 Tom Schmiedeler

EN 138/393B Kansas Literature

W 1 to 3:40 Tom Averill

PO 107 A State & Local Government

10 to 10:50 MWF Loran Smith and

8 to 9:15 TR Loran Smith

Summer 2002

PE 198A Lifetime Wellness -Outdoor Activity

7:30 to 10 TWR 1st five weeks.

Taught by Patty McCormick

In the Spring 2003 semester, other courses are being scheduled that will count toward the minor in Kansas Studies. Kansas Geology and Kansas Characters may be offered for the first time in several semesters. Other courses that may be offered in the spring semester are AR 114/324 Kansas Art and Architecture, AN 225 Kansas Archeology, BI 180 Kansas Birds, Hi 322 Kansas History, MM 402/502 Kansas and the Media and PO 107 State and Local Government.

A student's request to major in Interdisciplinary Studies with an emphasis in Kansas Studies led to discussions about this option. Dr. Bruce Mactavish, who administers the major in Interdisciplinary Studies, and Dr. Barbara Burgess, director of the Center for Kansas Studies, are working on this option.

During the Spring 2002 semester 69 students were enrolled in six Kansas Studies courses. Students minoring in Kansas Studies are often majoring in history, English and mass media.

EN 138/393 Kansas Literature and PO 107 State and Local Government are general education courses, and MM 502 Kansas and the Media may be taken for graduate credit.

Kansas and American Freedom

Kansas occupies a pivotal place in the development of America, both geographically and philosophically. The extent of its commitment to freedom has played important roles in Kansas history and culture. Kansas as a place, as peoples and as philosophies approaches various commemorative dates, and invites academic and public programming to examine those dimensions.

To those ends, The Center for Kansas Studies proposes to sponsor a series of programs and to invite interested persons to assist in planning and implementation.

May 2004 is the golden anniversary of the pioneering Supreme Court Ruling, *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*. The Center proposes to support an academic conference on the decision and its implication for American Freedom in late May, 2004.

In addition the Center is investigating the possibility of holding an in-service teacher symposium to assist social studies teachers to utilize the

conference and the decision to meet the curriculum standards for teaching U. S. and Kansas history in the schools. This in-service would be during summer school, 2004. Complementary activities may include a reception and international speaker and coordinating activities with the National Parks Service ribbon cutting and opening of Monroe School Nation Historic Site to the public.

February 2004 and December 2002 are the 150th anniversaries of the opening of the Kansas Territory and the founding of Topeka. The Center proposes for the fall semester 2004 a course for students at Washburn that explores Kansas and American freedom, with *bleeding Kansas* and the Brown decision as bookends. A principal text could be Eric Foner's *The Story of American Freedom* (NY, 1998).

Dr. Bruce Mactavish and Dr. Bill Wagnon led a discussion of these ideas at a special meeting in April sponsored by the Center.

Interested persons may contact Bruce Mactavish at zzmact@washburn.edu and Bill Wagnon at wagnon@washburn.edu.

Three sections of English 300 to focus on Kansas

Bradley Siebert, assistant professor of English, has developed the theme "Compositing Kansas" for his English 300 classes. These courses might be of particular interest to Kansas Studies students. The primary subject of the course is written composition and rhetoric, but several of the assignments call for students to study, discuss, research, use, and respond to Kansas readings and

Kansas subjects.

Since this is a course required by the university, it is not eligible to count for credit toward the Kansas Studies minor. Siebert's Advanced Composition courses are:

Summer first five week session

EN 300 EA Advanced Comp. 5:30-8 TWR
Fall

EN 300 C Advanced Comp TR 9:30 - 10:45

EN 300 O Advanced Comp MW 4 - 5:15

Kansas books available from the Center

The following Kansas Literature reprint series are available from the Center for Kansas Studies of Washburn University:

A West Wind Rises, Massacre at Marais des Cygnes, by Bruce Cutler. First published in 1962, this classic of Kansas territorial literature, by a master of the narrative poem, sees print again. "A West Wind Rises" charts the events of 1858, when Charles Hamilton and a group of followers perpetrated a bloody massacre on the soil of an already "Bleeding Kansas." \$7.50

The Kansas Poems, by Kenneth Wiggins Porter. These evocative poems from the Kansas Dust Bowl were put together by Kenneth Porter just before his death. \$5.00

Dust and Short Works by Marcet and Emanuel Haldeman-Julius. The novel "Dust" challenges our traditional notions of pioneering, showing the spiritual costs of agricultural life. "Short Works" is a collection of short stories and plays that comically depict life in a small town in southeast Kansas. \$12.00

As Grass, by Edythe Squier Draper. With an

introduction by Jeffrey Ann Goudie. These short stories are some of the best ever written by a Kansas writer. Set in the small town, depicting the lives of minorities, women and those not usually seen as heroic, Draper's stories shine as both literature and human drama. \$6.00. That Trick of Silence, by Steven Hind. Hind's second collection of poems includes many from his first (published originally by Cottonwood Press, in Lawrence), along with new work from Hutchinson and the Flint Hills. Though regional work in terms of setting, Hind's poetry transcends all boundaries. \$6.00 In A Place With No Map, by Steven Hind. New and selected poems make up Hind's third collection, and further his ever sensitive and wise sense of his place, the Kansas Flint Hills. \$7.00

[These books may be ordered either by e-mail or mail from Tom Averill at Washburn University. e-mail: zzaver@washburn.edu or Tom Averill, Washburn University, 1700 College, Topeka, Kansas 66621.]

Students study birds

In the spring 2002 semester, 22 students studied Kansas birds. In addition to classroom work, students took field trips to Karlyle Woods to watch a bird banding and to Dornwood Park to practice identifying local species.

Students in the class saw some Kansas raptors up close when volunteers from the Wild Care, a wildlife rehabilitation located near Lawrence, brought to class a Red-tailed hawk, an American Kestrel, a Barn Owl and a Great Horned Owl.



Students also had the opportunity to attend a Bird Identification Seminar conducted by the Topeka Audubon Society.

Dr. Joanne Ramberg, instructor, and a few students attended the Wings and Wetlands Weekend at Great Bend. Activities included tours of Quivira National Wildlife Refuge and Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area and Nature Conservancy Preserve.

BI 180 Birds of Kansas has been a popular class whenever it is offered.

Speaking of Kansas

Washburn Center for Kansas Studies

1700 College

Topeka, Ks 66621

(785) 231-1010 Ex.1801

Director: Barbara Burgess

e-mail: burgess@washburn.edu

HOME PAGE: www.washburn.edu/cks

2001-2002 Fellows

Tom Averill, English

Roy Bird, English

Barbara Burgess, Mass Media

Jenny Chinn, KSHS

Virgil Dean, KSHS

Amy Fleury, English

Rachel Goossen, History

Suzanne Heck, Mass Media

Robert Hull, Business

Reinhild Janzen, Art

Bruce Mactavish, History

Mary McCoy, Biology

Pat Michaelis, KSHS

Joanne Ramberg, Biology

Tom Schmiedeler, Geography

Bradley Siebert, English

Loran Smith, Political Science

Margy Stewart, English

Glenda Taylor, Art

Sara Tucker, History

Bill Wagnon, History

Tom Wolf, Biology

The Washburn University Center for Kansas Studies works to encourage Kansas studies, to create resources and provide information about Kansas resources at WU and around the state, to offer programming and courses on Kansas topics, and to conduct outreach programs that focus on Kansas.

Department chairs and instructors are reminded that the Center for Kansas Studies will support speakers, field trips and other class activities in the classes that are offered for credit in the minor in Kansas Studies. Speakers in other classes will also be supported. For more information e-mail or telephone Barbara Burgess, director of the Center for Kansas Studies.

Barbara Burgess, director

Washburn Center for Kansas Studies

1700 College

Topeka, KA 66621

Speaking of Kansas

Washburn Center for Kansas Studies

1700 College

Topeka, Ks 66621

(785) 231-1010 Ex.1801

Director: Barbara Burgess

e-mail: burgess@washburn.edu

HOME PAGE: www.washburn.edu/cks

2001-2002 Fellows

Tom Averill, English

Roy Bird, English

Barbara Burgess, Mass Media

Jenny Chinn, KSHS

Virgil Dean, KSHS

Amy Fleury, English

Rachel Goossen, History

Suzanne Heck, Mass Media

Robert Hull, Business

Reinhild Janzen, Art

Bruce Mactavish, History

Mary McCoy, Biology

Pat Michaelis, KSHS

Joanne Ramberg, Biology

Tom Schmiedeler, Geography

Bradley Siebert, English

Loran Smith, Political Science

Margy Stewart, English

Glenda Taylor, Art

Sara Tucker, History

Bill Wagnon, History

Tom Wolf, Biology

The Washburn University Center for Kansas Studies works to encourage Kansas studies, to create resources and provide information about Kansas resources at WU and around the state, to offer programming and courses on Kansas topics, and to conduct outreach programs that focus on Kansas.

Department chairs and instructors are reminded that the Center for Kansas Studies will support speakers, field trips and other class activities in the classes that are offered for credit in the minor in Kansas Studies. Speakers in other classes will also be supported. For more information e-mail or telephone Barbara Burgess, director of the Center for Kansas Studies.

Barbara Burgess, director
Washburn Center for Kansas Studies
1700 College
Topeka, KA 66621