

EXPLORATION

Winter Quarter, 1981

A full-time participant in the winter quarter of this program participated in five activities: a course in American literature, a course in the history of marine exploration, a survey course in marine studies called Views of the Coast, a weekly seminar, and a writing workshop.

American Literature

The texts: Melville, Billy Budd and Other Stories, Moby Dick, White Jacket, Typee, The Confidence Man; Twain, Innocents Abroad, Roughing It, Life on the Mississippi, Huckleberry Finn, The Adventures of Tom Sawyer; Faulkner, The Hamlet, The Town, Three Famous Short Novels, "The Bear."

The purpose of the course was to examine these major writings as authors not only of the major texts of our culture, but also as the authors of American points of view and an American vision. The students attended two long lectures a week in which Dr. Sinclair discussed how these views and this vision inform the depth and limits the scope of our perception.

Writing Workshop

At this once-weekly workshop, Dr. Sinclair helped students with the form of their writing, using their own writing as texts. He also helped them in construction of a long paper, again using their own work as texts.

History of Marine Exploration

This course traced in sketchy outline the history of European exploration of the world from the earliest recorded times through the 19th century. In-depth treatment was given to the early Mediterranean explorations, to the Viking period, and to Bering's voyages. Source material ranged from partially speculative inferences from classical legends to recent work on Russian archives from the 18th century.

Students were required to select a topic from those covered or touched in the course, conduct research and write a paper based on personal research findings. Each student also made a presentation to the class on his/her topic, discussing it in detail. Reading list: Gorham-Cambell, The Viking World; Fisher, Bering's Voyages; Worsley, Shackleton's Boat Journey; Strachan and Penrose, Journals of Keeling and Bonner.

Views of the Coast

Through lectures and reading, this section was a survey of marine studies, featuring: popularization of ocean science by Jacques Cousteau and Rachel Carson, coastal fisheries, mariculture, degradation of coastal ocean environments, and coastal zone management. Reading was based on: The Silent World (Cousteau), The Edge of the Sea (Carson) Highliners (McCloskey), The Life and Death of the Salt Marsh (Teal and Teal), The Forests of the Sea (Culliney), The Thin Edge (Simon), and Scientific American articles on "Continental Shelves," "The Food Resources of the Ocean," "Marine Farming," and "The Anchovy Crisis." Seven sets of study questions about the reading and lectures were assigned for written responses.

Core Seminar: Seminars were held weekly on topics of "society and the marine environment" relevant to the themes of Exploration and the sections on American Literature, History of Marine Exploration, and Views of the Coast.

Equivalencies: American Literature-----4 hrs
History of Marine Exploration-----4 hrs
Survey of Marine Studies-----4 hrs
Seminar, "Society and the
Marine Environment-----2 hrs
Writing Workshop-----2 hrs