

AN EXPERIMENTAL COURSE

Pitzer College will be a liberal arts college, offering broad background education. The curriculum will require that every student experience the disciplines of all three of the basic intellectual areas - the social sciences, the humanities, and the sciences. In addition, everyone will attain a satisfactory level of competence in the use of both English and a foreign language. Meeting these requirements will occupy four courses in each of a student's first four semesters - her freshman and sophomore years. Some of these will be taught at Pitzer, but there will be an opportunity to enroll quite freely in courses at the other Claremont Colleges.

Because the College's major emphasis will be in the social and behavioral sciences, it is expected that Pitzer students will have more than average interest in civic activities and service. For this reason, a fifth course has been planned for freshmen and sophomores, consisting of group projects in the local community. For example, a group of three or four students might choose a topic such as "Crippled Children's Problems." They would meet frequently with a professor who would give them direction and assistance. They might work regularly at the nearby center for the rehabilitation of crippled children, observing their education, the emotional problems of their adjustment, their special needs.

Other projects might involve the local mental hospital, team teaching experiments in the Claremont schools, the study of local government, the problems of Mexican-Americans in the Pomona Valley, and others.

The College hopes that field work of this sort will make class-room theory more meaningful and that it will be an introduction to independent study in the junior and senior years - study including individual investigation in scholarly areas previously unexplored.

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