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WKU Folk Studies Society

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We would like to extend a welcome to the new students entering the program this spring. Following is a list of these students, their undergraduate major, and institution.

David Pettitt  
Kentucky Weslyan College  
N.A.

Susan Skea  
Western Kentucky University  
Anthropology

Tony Moffeit  
Oklahoma State University  
Psychology  
University of Oklahoma  
M.A. Library Science

Rudy Thomas  
Berea College  
German

New Courses Available

This fall, there are several new courses in the folk studies curriculum. Below are listed the new graduate courses, and following, other graduate courses.

Folk Studies 462G Folk Medicine (Dr. Kenneth Clarke)

This course will review the relationship of folk medicine to scientific medicine in terms of the partial displacement of folk medicine by rational thought, and its persistence in a scientific era as a set of health systems based on survivals of alchemy, astrology, witchcraft, folk religion, and other nonscientific modes of thought.

Folk Studies 470G Museum Procedures and Preservation Techniques. (Bruce MacLeish, graduate of History Museum Studies Program, Coopers-town, N.Y.)

This course is designed to deal with essential aspects of museums in particular and preservation in general, i.e., collecting, preserving, researching, exhibiting, and interpreting material culture.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Instructor(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Folk Studies 573</td>
<td>Seminar in Interpretation of Myth</td>
<td>(Dr. Jim Wayne Miller)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Investigation of the principal contemporary modes of research and interpretation of myth.</td>
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<td>Folk Studies 406G</td>
<td>American Dialects (Dr. Mary W. Clarke)</td>
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<td>Folk Studies 476G</td>
<td>The Ballad (Dr. Mary W. Clarke)</td>
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<td>Folk Studies 477G</td>
<td>Folk Art and Technology (Dr. Lynwood Montell)</td>
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<td>Folk Studies 478G</td>
<td>Folklore in Literature (Dr. Kenneth Clarke)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folk Studies 570</td>
<td>Appalachian Folklore and Folklife (Dr. Lynwood Montell, Dr. Jim Wayne Miller)</td>
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<td>Folk Studies 571</td>
<td>Oral Literature of the North American Indians (Dr. Kenneth Clarke)</td>
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<td>Folk Studies 572</td>
<td>Applied Folklore (Camilla Collins)</td>
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<td>Folk Studies 576</td>
<td>American Traditional Song (Dr. Mary Clarke)</td>
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<td>Folk Studies 577</td>
<td>Techniques and Materials in Folklore Studies (Dr. Kenneth Clarke)</td>
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<td>Folk Studies 578</td>
<td>Folklore and Folklife Research (Dr. Kenneth Clarke)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folk Studies 579</td>
<td>Directed Study and Research in Folklore (staff)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folk Studies 599</td>
<td>Thesis* (staff)</td>
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*all of the above courses carry three semester hours of credit, except for Folk Studies 599 which is six hours.

In addition to the above mentioned courses, the M.A. student can also choose from several other graduate level courses outside of the department, depending upon his or her interests.

**Folk Studies Program**

Late last semester the Center for Intercultural and Folk Studies moved its offices and classes to Gordon Wilson Hall. This is of special significance since the late Dr. Gordon Wilson, who taught here at Western, was one of the early folklore scholars in this region.

**Research Grants**

Dr. Lynwood Montell has announced that individual
research grants ranging from $200 to $300 are available for graduate students. If you are interested, please contact Dr. James L. Davis, Dean of Faculty Programs, Office of Academic Affairs, in the administration building.

Folklore Society Meetings

On November 23rd, the Kentucky Folklore Society met at Gordon Wilson Hall, here at Western. Highlights of the meeting included talks by Dr. Kenneth Clarke and Dr. William Jansen and film and folk instrument workshops, presented by graduate students in the folk studies program. Ms. Camilla Collins is to be congratulated for her efforts in organizing the program and helping to make it a success. The program was well attended by folklorists from both Kentucky and Tennessee.

Also, on Saturday, November 9th, several of the graduate students attended the annual meeting of the Tennessee Folklore Society at Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tennessee. Talks by Thomas G. Burton, Saundra Ivey, Richard Blaustein, James R. Reese, Charles K. Wolfe, and others helped make the meeting a worthwhile event. Our thanks also go out to Dr. Ralph Hyde for the many courtesies he extended to the students who attended the meeting.

Faculty

The Hewers and the Carvers, an illustrated book on traditional Kentucky woodcrafts is being prepared for the University of Kentucky Press Bicentennial Bookshelf series by Kenneth Clarke and Ira Kohn. They expect to deliver the completed manuscript to the press in the early summer of 1975.

Dr. Lynwood Montell and Mike Morse are currently working on a manuscript dealing with Kentucky folk housing. The work, also a part of the Bicentennial Bookshelf series, deals with architecture, function, aesthetics, and other aspects of folk housing in Kentucky.

Among the first four works to appear in the Bicentennial series is Kenneth and Mary Clarke's book, The Harvest and The Reapers. Initial response has been favorable to this much needed work, which traces the development of the discipline of folklore in Kentucky.

Newsletter Exchange

Students in the program here have shown an interest in activities of other folklore programs and organizations; however, we often hear of these events only after they have taken place. In an attempt to remedy this situation, we would like to begin a reciprocal exchange of newsletters with other folklore programs and organizations. In this
manner we could not only exchange news, but also publicize future activities that might be of interest to others. If your program or organization is interested in this exchange, please let us know.

Notes and Queries

I want to make note of an alternative solution for the use of printed questionnaires in linguistic surveys. The long, formidable list of questions has always seemed awkward to me. Three fundamental facets of the questionnaires need to be reviewed: 1. the definition of the object or belief is rigid and possibly not suitable for all geographic areas surveyed; 2. the use of printed multiple-choice answers is complex and might cause the informant to select a compromised answer; 3. the length of the questionnaire is too strenuous.

I believe that slide projectors could be of use in these surveys. Many items on questionnaires can be represented on slides. The slides would tend to simulate real life in which the informant would observe an object visually. The result would be a spontaneous, unbiased response from the informant. Since slides can't depict all objects or beliefs needed for a good study, perhaps they could be used as one part of the survey--to maintain the interest of the informant.

Roger Beatty

Publication Noted:

Grunfeld, Frederic V. The Art and Times of the Guitar: An Illustrated History of Guitars and Guitarists

Available in paperback at a $6 savings from the price of the hardcover edition, The Art and Times of the Guitar functions best as an overall survey of the history and role of the guitar and guitarist. The publication includes a liberal amount of footnotes, a bibliography, and an index. The illustrations suffer in quality in comparison with the hardcover edition.

Ira Kohn

How can we make use of the computer as a tool to develop a network of retrievable, archived material? I would like to hear from anyone who may have ideas or interests in this area.

Roger Beatty
Book and Record Reviews

In an attempt to stimulate more interest in this section of the Newsletter, the Editor will begin contacting various publishers in order to acquire specific books and records for review. Hopefully, if we do receive the titles we request, the reviewers will be able to keep the works that they review. If there is a current work in folklore that you would like to review, let us know and we'll try to obtain it.

Graduate School Forms

Folklore graduate students are reminded that there are several forms that must be filled out for the Graduate School. The Graduate Degree Program (Form C) should be filed before completion of 10 hours credit. Admission to Candidacy (Form D) must be filed no later than the second week of your final semester of course work. The Application for Degree card must be returned to the Registrar no later than April 1st for the spring commencement. If you have any questions about these forms, please contact Ms. Chris Jenkins in the Graduate College.

Folklore Student Completes Internship

Linda White, one of our folklore graduate students, recently returned from Washington, D.C. where she completed an internship under Dr. Alan Jabbour, Director of Folk Arts, for the National Endowment for the Arts.

Linda's internship consisted of seminars, designed to acquaint her with the staff and agency itself, and sessions with arts administrators and people from art agencies around the country. Ms. White also gained experience in arts administration procedures in working for the Endowment under Dr. Jabbour.

Editor's Note: If anyone is interested in applying for a position as an intern in the Endowment program this summer, you are urged to do so before the March 17 deadline. For further information contact Kathleen Bannon, National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, D.C.

Folk Studies Society Newsletter

If you would like to receive the Newsletter and are not on our mailing list, please let us know. We are requesting a donation of $1.00 per semester to help defray the costs that the Society incurs. Please address all correspondence to:

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