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2 new WLU Telecollege courses

top 20 new offerings by Laurier

Wilfrid Laurier University will be adding two new courses this fall and winter to its regular offerings of university credit courses offered through WLU Telecollege.

Prof. Alan Auerbach of the university's psychology department will host a physiological televideo course entitled The Brain, an introduction to the brain's structure and function, with emphasis on perception, emotion, learning and functional disorders. The TV portion of the course was produced in the United States at a cost of almost \$4 million.

The second new course, It's Your Welfare, an introduction to social welfare, will be hosted by Dr. John Farina of the Laurier social work faculty. The course, also based on an excellent TV segment, will highlight the origins, basic concepts, dimensions, structure and values of social welfare. It will be available in January.

WLU Telecollege is offering 20 televideo courses, including courses in such fields as anthropology, business, economics, fine arts, geography, geology, music, philosophy, religion and culture, sociology and science.

Courses are offered in this area through Rogers Cable TV and TVOntario. A number of other cable companies carry the courses in many other Ontario centres.

Cliff G. Bilyea, acting director of part-time studies at Laurier, said WLU Telecollege courses appeal to many people who find it difficult to get to campus or prefer the television format delivered to their homes.

"Telecollege provides university credit courses at a time convenient for many people," Bilyea said. "The format of interviews, discussions, and illustration makes the format both entertaining and academically rigorous. The attrition rate for Telecollege is extremely low -- less than eight per cent withdrew in the past fall and winter session."

The televised lectures are augmented by study guides, text books, and other material, often including audiocassettes. Professors arrange to meet with students at convenient times. They are also available for telephone discussions.

In addition, all courses are enriched with teleconferencing sessions in which students are invited to meet at prearranged classrooms in a variety of locations where they are interconnected with the instructor over telephone lines.

And under the university's mature admission policy, students need not have completed high school. Admission is open to those with grade 12 and two years of work experience and to those 21 years or older, regardless of academic background. Tuition is free to those 60 and older.