'NOT FOR FAINTHEARTED'

History Dept. Begins Ford Program

By ALBERT LOWEY BALL

The History Department of Rice University, by participating in the Ford Foundation Master's program, is trying to stimulate more students into becoming college teachers. The course of study leading to a Master's Degree is reduced to a regulated five-year curriculum.

DR. LOUIS GALAMBOS, the head of the program, stated that the students are contacted early, preferably before or during the freshman year. An intensive specialization in history and related subjects follows, although the students are required to bear the normal academic load besides. Special attention is also given to foreign languages.

The program is not for the faint-hearted, explained Dr. Galambos. Essays, book reviews, and seminars are taken during the freshman year; the student is also introduced at this time to historiography, the art of writing history. During the junior year, a faculty advisor is assigned to the student, at which time the student selects the subject of his senior thesis.

AFTER COMPLETION of his senior thesis, the student immediately begins (the summer before his 5th year) his Master's thesis. The oral examination at the end of that year plus the thesis provide the basis for awarding the student his M.A.

Optimistic of the program's success, Dr. Galambos explained that the program has been in existence only since 1961 and warned that it is as yet entirely experimental and has no proven results.