Academ Sections For Freshman Physics, Chemistry Are Planned

By BOB HAYES

Special sections for academic students in Chemistry 120 and Physics 100 are among the major changes which have been announced in the Science and Engineering Departments for the next academic year.

Both sections of Physics 100 will meet at C hour. Doctors Rorshach and Bryan will use the same text, but one section will delve into deeper analysis after identical introductory material during the first three months. Students can transfer from their originally-assigned section if their interests and abilities are so inclined.

THE ACADEMIC chemistry sections will be conducted in a similar fashion and will meet at B hour. Chemistry 120 will also include the quantitative analysis of Chemistry 220 as is now done at Cal Tech. Although this will go into effect next year, Chemistry 220a will be taught for two more years for the benefit of those who want quantitative analysis but who have already taken Chemistry 120. This change has been approved by the medical schools.

The freshman labs are also being changed. The physics labs for next year are to be more creative and challenging. The freshman chemistry lab will include qualitative, quantitative and some gravimetric analysis in order to introduce the student to actual chemistry before the senior level.

In the Physics Department, Dr. G. K. Walters, who received his B.A. from Rice in 1954 and his Ph.D. from Duke, will come as a full professor next year. He has been working in Texas Instruments for the past several years, and will teach senior level courses in thermodynamics and statistical mechanics. Dr. Peter Swan, who has suggested several new experiments in nuclear physics, will come to Rice as a visiting associate.

THE ONLY other announced change in the engineering departments occurs in Electrical Engineering where several new men are being sought to teach fifth year and graduate level courses.

There are no essential changes in the math curriculum, although several new professors have been obtained.

George Innis, Jr., a Ph.D. from Texas who has done post doctoral work at Harvard, will come as Assistant Professor and will teach Math 100 and Math 442.

HOWARD CURTIS, a visiting associate from the faculty at Texas will teach Math 200 and 400.

Dr. Charles K. Miller will also become an Assistant Professor of Mathematics.

The Department of Biology, wishing to show to all good S.E.'s that Biology is not just birds and bees, will offer Biology 300, an introduction to Biology based on a solid background in chemistry and physics.

TWO NEW men, Drs. Frank Fisher and John Simmons, have been hired to teach invertebrate zoology, and comparative anatomy. Dr. Fisher has been doing post-doctoral work at Rice this

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A major change in the so-called general engineering courses is planned next year which will affect only the incoming sophomores. Engineers will no longer be required to take Engineering Drawing 201 per se. Instead, the only requirement will be to show an “equivalent” proficiency in drawing.

This can be done in one of three ways: passing a proficiency test before a board of examiners, submitting evidence of having taken sufficient drawing in high school, or by successfully completing Engineering 201 itself.

As a result it will be possible for Engineering 211, 212, and 213 to be taken a semester earlier, provided the student does not have to take 201. This will put 211 and 212 in consecutive semesters of the sophomore year and 213 in the first semester of the junior year. The vacancy created by not having to take 201 will be filled in different manners depending on the Engineering Department involved.

According to Dr. Franz R. Brotzen, Dean of Engineering, a plan is under consideration which would combine the Engineering courses 211, 212, and 213 into one full course. This would allow a much-needed redistribution of emphasis and time and time spent on the “Big Three” of mechanics: statics, kinematics, and dynamics. However, this plan will not be effective until at least the Fall.

The Chemistry Department has announced that Chemistry 400a, advanced organic, will be made a junior level requirement, as will Chemistry 400b, inorganic chemistry. It seems that chemistry majors, who didn’t even know inorganic chemistry existed before Dr. Pitzer told them, (there are some who still don’t believe it,) will get a good dose of it in their junior year.

Old Chem 320b, instrumental analysis, will be moved to the senior year and taught as Chem 470a. The lab will be upgraded and the course required of chem majors.

More of the undergraduate labs are to be renovated.

And, oh yes, “the dust and dirt will disappear by September.”