

Ad hoc committee decides against mystics courses

By ADAM KARDASH

An *ad hoc* committee has unanimously decided to recommend against the regularization of Professor Chris Holmes' "mystical" teachings into the psychology curriculum.

The *ad hoc* committee was formed in order to evaluate Holmes' special topic courses entitled "Mystical Psychology and the Psychic Sciences" and "Mystical Views of Consciousness and Creation." The advisory committee consists of psychology professors Dr. David Bakan, Dr. Kurt Danziger, and Dr. Matt Westcott. The committee was formed, and approved, by both Professor Holmes and Dr. Kathryn Koenig, the Chairman of the Psychology Department and was instructed to issue a recommendation on Holmes' courses to the Psychology Undergraduate Committee.

According to a memorandum issued to Holmes, the advisory committee arrived at their conclusion because Holmes courses "did not appear to fill a need recognized by the Psychology Department... had limited reference to recognized psychological topics" and were dealing with subject matter at a level that was not "appropriate" for the psychology curriculum.

"The decision is totally ridiculous," Holmes responded. "The professors on the committee had five months to review the course and

only one half of one class was attended all term. You can't evaluate my teachings on one hour of observation. Ask any of my students and they will tell you that you have to work with the material. Furthermore, to my knowledge, none of the committee members made any effort to talk to the students. This decision exemplifies the narrow-mindedness of the entire Department."

Committee members Danziger and Bakan refused to comment on the decision although Dr. David Rennie, Director of the Psychology Undergraduate Programme, did state that there will be some form of student representation when his committee makes their decision. At the moment, Holmes' courses are already experiencing enrollment levels beyond departmental limits and an *Excalibur* petition included over 900 signatures of students concerned about the fate of his teachings here at York.

Members of the Undergraduate Studies Committee will make their final decision later on this month. If they reject the committee's recommendation the issue will be brought before the Executive Committee in the Psychology Department. An acceptance of the advisory's recommendation, by either of these committees, will result in the cancellation of Holmes' mystics courses for next year.

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PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO THE EXAMINATION SCHEDULE DATES: FEBRUARY 25, 1988

CHANGE TO READ

Earth and Atmospheric Science

EATS 1010.03 (W) Wednesday, April 20 8:30am - 11:30am Stedman F
EATS 4050.06 Wednesday, April 6 5:00pm Take Home Due

English

EN 3280.06A Friday, April 15 12 noon - 3:00pm Curtis J

French

FR 2090.06A Monday, April 11 6:00pm - 9:30pm Winters 115

History

HIST 4550.06A Friday, April 15 Take Home Due

Political Science

POLS 2100.06A Tuesday, April 19 12 noon - 3:00pm Curtis B, C

Social Science

SOSC 3130.06A Friday, April 22 1:00pm - 4:00pm Curtis D

ADDED TO EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

Mathematics

AS/SC MATH 3130.03M(W) Thursday, May 5 8:30am - 10:30am Stedman A

Psychology

AS/SC 3470.03M(W) Friday, April 29 12 noon - 3:00pm Curtis G

Sociology

SOCI 2030.06A Friday, May 6 8:30am - 11:30am Stedman F
SOCI 2100.06B Thursday, May 5 8:30am - 11:30am Tait - Small Gym
SOCI 3620.06A Friday, May 6 12 noon - 3:00pm Stedman A
SOCI 3820.06A Thursday, May 5 12 noon - 3:00pm Stedman A

Theatre

THEA 2200.06 Wednesday, April 13 7:00pm - 10:00pm Stedman A

DELETED FROM EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

English

EN 1100.06N Monday, April 18 12 noon - 3:00pm Curtis J
EN 1100.06R Wednesday, April 27 8:30am - 11:30am Curtis H
EN 1300.06A Thursday, April 21 8:30am - 11:30am Stedman E
EN 2120.06A Tuesday, April 26 12 noon - 3:00pm Curtis H, K
EN 2400.06A Thursday, April 21 3:30pm - 6:30pm Curtis H
EN 3010.06A Wednesday, May 4 8:30am - 11:30am Curtis J
EN 3370.06A Wednesday, April 27 12 noon - 3:00pm Ross S105
EN 4150C.06 Wednesday, April 20 8:30am - 11:30am Curtis M
EN 4180A.06 Monday, May 2 12 noon - 3:00pm Curtis 110

Mathematics

AS/SC MATH 4120N.03(W) Friday, April 15 12 noon - 3:00pm Curtis 110

Social Science

SOSC 3990R.06 Wednesday, April 27 12 noon - 3:00pm Curtis M