

# Summer Offerings For The Island Studies Minor

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A & E EDITOR

Have you ever wondered what makes UPEI such a unique educational facility? One reason is that the university offers the world's first interdisciplinary Minor in Island Studies. This program, which commenced in 1999, was created in order to promote an understanding of selected features of the world's small islands, including their geographies, ecologies, cultures, political systems, histories, and societies. In order to attain this minor, students must complete 7 approved courses, including Island Studies 201, two courses specific to Prince Edward Island, and two courses of a comparative nature.

This summer, seven special courses will be presented as part of the Island Studies Minor. These courses, featuring guest professors from as far away as Malta, are shaping up to be an exciting addition to the program's offering.

During the first summer session, which begins on May 15 and finishes on June 22, there will be two courses offered. The first, Island Studies 302, which is cross-listed with English 302, is called "The New English Literatures of Australia, New Zealand, and the Indian Subcontinent."

This course will be offered on Tuesday and Wednesday nights by Professor Jane Ledwell, who holds a Master's degree in New Zealand Literature. Island Studies 205, which is "Introduction to PEI Folklore," will be offered on Monday and Thursday nights by Professor John Cousins, a noted historian and folklorist who currently teaches at Westisle Highschool.

The second summer session will offer five courses, two of which are cross listed with

Political Studies. The first of these, taught by Dr. David Milne, currently teaching at the University of Malta, is Island Studies 315-Political Studies 315. Entitled "Comparative Federalism and Small Island Jurisdictions," this course will run on Monday and Wednesday nights. The second, Island Studies 309-Political Studies 309, will be taught by Dr. Peter Lyons, editor of *The Round Table* and *The Journal of Commonwealth Affairs*, as well as Professor at the London School of Economics and Political Science. His course, "The Commonwealth in World Affairs: Small Islands and Small States," will take place on Tuesday and Thursday nights.

Island Studies 203, which is "Geography and the Island Environment," will be offered by Dr. Ted Bernard. Author of *The Ecology of Hope*, and Professor at Ohio University, this particular course will be offered in a compressed three week schedule. As a result, it will be taught every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from July 10 to July 28. All other courses offered in the second summer session will run from July 4 to August 10.

"Sociology of Small Islands," which is Island Studies 328 and cross listed with Sociology/Anthropology 328, will be taught by Dr. Godfrey Baldacchino of the University of Malta. This course will be offered on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Dr. Ian MacQuarrie, a retired UPEI Professor of Biology, will be teaching the "Natural History of Prince Edward Island." This course, cross listed between Island Studies 321 and Biology 231, will be offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with four Saturdays field trips and a lab.

For more information on the Island Studies program, phone (902) 566-0512,

## The UPEI Chaplaincy Centre

The rather obscure, low-lying building situated across the way from the main entrance to Kelley Building has an interesting purpose and history. For more than thirty years, it has been the Chaplaincy Centre and an integral part of the University. It was under the first administration of UPEI's first president, Mr. Ron Baker, that the decision was made to convert an existing coffee shop/bookstore to the University Chaplaincy Centre.

What is a chaplaincy? That is an interesting question and the answer might vary from institution to institution. However, having a chaplaincy on campus is part of a long tradition that is well-established on university campuses across North America and Europe as well.

The Chaplaincy Centre at UPEI is an ecumenical place/space that offers students and faculty a unique opportunity on campus for quiet reflection, prayer and liturgical celebrations. The Centre is strongly rooted in the Christian tradition but it is also frequently used by other faiths and meditation groups. The Centre consists of a number of spaces or rooms: a small chapel, a large worship assembly area, a kitchen, a meeting area with small resource library and offices for the Catholic and Protestant chaplains on campus. The various rooms are adorned with works of art that help create a special atmosphere. For example, the main worship space is adorned with six beautiful quilted tapestries. They were designed by Father Adrien Arsenault, a member of the faculty of St. Dunstan's (1953-1969), and of the University of Prince Edward Island for fourteen years. They depict a series of wonderful creational themes in bold vivid colors, adding a sense of a person's place in the world.

It has been suggested that a primary purpose of a University is the creation of knowledge and

the communication of that knowledge to others. Such a pursuit is to take place within the context of a "community of learning as recognized by the mission statement of the University of Prince Edward Island. A chaplaincy centre has an important role to play in the achievement of both objectives: the creation of knowledge and of community. In this way its purpose is integrally rooted with the purpose of the University.

A simple explanation of the long tradition of a chaplaincy on campus is that it provides a forum for the integration of faith and intellectual pursuit. This is in keeping with the principles espoused by the University of Prince Edward Island to foster critical thinking and service to community among its graduates. The Chaplaincy Centre has enriched students' knowledge of self and the world around them and has helped create community, i.e. a sense of belonging by serving as a meeting place.

Sometimes we overlook the services that the University provides. Did you know that the Chaplaincy Centre has a well-stocked kitchen that provides foodstuffs—canned goods, pasta, etc.—to students free of charge when resources are running low? Did you know that the Chaplaincy Centre cooks up hot soup or chilli during exam time, so that students can grab a bite in between exams? Did you know that the Chaplaincy Centre helps the University host inter-university conferences, and helps send delegates to regional and national university student gatherings? If you wish to know more about the Chaplaincy Centre, please don't be afraid to ask. Contact Father Charlie @ 566-0376 or Mr. Bill Wiltshire @ 566-0574. Martha Gabriel  
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