

Seminar Program Examines White Racism In Institutions

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The first class in a series of seven met last week to commence the Racism Seminar currently offered to all interested students. The seminar exists as the core of the Student Government Racism Program.

The program was initiated in response to the resolution co-signed last May by President Sanford S. Atwood and SGA President Charles Haynes. It was subsequently endorsed by the College faculty, admitting to the existence of racism at Emory University and committed to its eradication.

The underlying theme of the program is devoted to the principle that racism does exist in our society. Classification of racism to merely individual belief or attitude is eliminated in the program's attempt to display its existence in institutionalized reality. The course seeks to shift the popular premise of an essentially Black Problem to the context of a White Problem; and in the words of David Missey, student coordinator of the program, "subsequently show how White attitudes towards Black are incorporated into institutions and how those institutions continue to oppress black people."

In this light the program does not exist primarily for discussion of white racism on Emory Campus as such, but its overall role in the American way of life. The problem is of national and international dimension, Emory to be dealt with as one institution in the aggregate of the racist phenomenon. Emory will serve as a perspective, an isolated institution to be analyzed and shifted for its assimilation of racist tendencies.

The curriculum offered to each class will include a general history of the black man tracing his African roots up to the present context of racial riots; the existence of institutionalized racism in various aspects of society and the forms it partakes; racism and the current social modes and situations if [[it]] propagates; and what individuals can do to turn the tide against racism and the attitudes that breed its existence.

The entire Student Government Program of which the seminar is a major part will be accented throughout the year by other events. Local and national figures will be brought to the

campus to comment on issues. A total of eight hundred and fifty students have signed up for the seminar.

relevant to the program. Sensitivity or confrontation groups will be organized winter quarter.