

## NEW BLACK STUDIES PROGRAM

In response to suggestions which originated among the students and included the circulation of a petition requesting the introduction of a course in the history of the American Negro, the University of Idaho will offer this fall for the first time a course on "Black Identity: Alienation, Preservation, and Affirmation." The official designation of the course will be Social Science 101, Man in the Nuclear Age, and will be offered as an interdisciplin<sup>c</sup>ary course involving various disciplines. The course will be offered for two credits, meet<sup>ing</sup> once a week for two consecutive hours. The first hour will be formal presentation by a speaker or panel and the latter portion of the class period will be used for a discussion in small group seminars.

The coordinator responsible for supervising the entire course, securing the participating faculty, and keeping the official records will be Professor Jack L. Davis, whose specialty is American Studies in the English Department. The outline of the course which he and his colleagues have prepared proposes six introductory sessions on the alienation of the Blacks, followed by two weeks on methods by which the Black identity was preserved and, then concluding with seven weeks studying various methods by which Black identity is affirmed today. The disciplines involved are Anthropology, Art, Economics, Geography, History, Literature, Music, Psychology, and Religion. The participating faculty have not yet been entirely established but include, in addition to Professor Davis, Professors Barnes, Rolland and Winkler of the History Department; Professors Chapin, Johnson and Rice from Sociology-Anthropology; Professor Caldwell from Geography; and Professors Roberts and Seiler from the Art and Music Departments. There <sup>will be</sup> ~~are~~ a number of others and possibly one or more professors from Washington State University will cooperate.

Arranging for the development of this course and responsible for approving the content of the course and general supervision of its development has been a very informal, self-constituted interdisciplinary faculty committee. Professor Hosack, Head of Department of Social Science, convened the group which was both flexible and wide ranging.