

Truman professor institutes dress code

BY PAIGE YUNGERMANN
Staff Writer

Truman State students can now learn more about Amish culture in a new course — so long as students are willing to abide by the class dress code.

Temporary sociology professor Cory Anderson is teaching “Amish Society” for the first time at Truman. For this course, Anderson forbids students from wearing sleeveless shirts, shorts or skirts shorter than mid-thigh and having bare feet. Each time a student fails to follow the dress code, Anderson will subtract one point from their next quiz or take away attendance points for the day.

Junior Kaitlyn Burke, who is in Anderson’s Introduction to Sociology class, met with Elizabeth Clark, the Dean of Social and Cultural Studies, to share her complaints about the dress code. Burke said she dropped Anderson’s class after realizing she did not need it to graduate, but she still has concerns about the dress code.

“I’ve never experienced anything like this,” Burke said. “I understand dressing

professionally for a presentation. In my opinion, a 100 level class isn’t necessarily a professional environment. It seemed a little bit ridiculous. If I happen to wear a tank top, I shouldn’t be penalized by saying I didn’t even come to class.”

“I think it’s good that students become consciously aware that how you dress matters in life.”

-Temporary sociology professor Cory Anderson

Burke said she does not yet know the outcome of her meeting with Clark.

Senior Kaitlyn Jones said she understands why Anderson has a dress code.

“[The dress code] is based off professionalism, which as a SOAN 450 class, I believe that we should be ready for the

professional world,” Jones said. “I think it’s good in that aspect — preparing us for the real world.” Anderson said his goal with the dress code is to teach students to dress in a professional manner, not to force them to dress more like the Amish. He said other American public universities have dress codes for this reason.

“I think it’s good that students become consciously aware that how you dress matters in life, and for a professional environment like a classroom, while I accept casual, I think it’s at least good to put in students’ minds that this particular environment is not the gym,” Anderson said. “It’s not your Friday night party. It’s a classroom, and there is professional behavior.”

The professional behavior Anderson expects from his students applies to more than the dress code. He said he wants his students to address emails professionally, arrive to class on time and avoid swearing.

In the course, Anderson said students will examine how the Amish have continued to exist in Western society despite societal change.

“Every generation of Amish has to choose to continue to be Amish or there would be none anymore,” Anderson said. “It’s not like they’re frozen in time. They’re dealing with the reality of a fast-changing America in which they’re living in.”

Anderson is Amish Mennonite, a more progressive branch of the Old Order Amish. He said Amish Mennonites allow the use of computers and cars, and have less strict rules about dress. However, Anderson said Amish Mennonites do not allow the use of TVs or radios and have restrictions about Internet use. Anderson said of the Amish population, about 5 percent are Amish Mennonite.

As an Amish Mennonite, Anderson’s job as a university professor is unusual. He said he is one of two church members who are professors out of all Plain churches, which are characterized by their simple style of dress. The other professor is G.C. Waldrep at Bucknell University.

This is Anderson’s first semester at Truman. Anderson said he would enjoy teaching “Amish Society” and other classes at Truman during future semesters as well.

German honor society returns

BY EMILY PLOCH
Staff Writer

After a hiatus of more than a decade, Delta Phi Alpha, the national German honor society, has returned to Truman State.

German program coordinator Andrea Davis said Delta Phi Alpha first was chartered at Truman by Constance Reid during 1988. After Reid passed away during 2003, the organization dwindled away, Davis said. She said for a long time, there was no outlet where students could delve deeper into the German culture and language for a long time.

However, Davis said last semester temporary professor Emily Hackmann had the opportunity to restart DPA, with Truman’s Kappa Beta chapter. Davis said the prospect of hiring a new professor for a tenure line position created positive energy to renew the German program.

“We’re finally at a place where I can do something for them, not just give them the membership cards or the pin,” Davis said. “I really want to help them channel what they’re doing and get involved in many things.”

She said DPA inducted 13 students during April 2015, but because three graduated last May, there are only 10 current DPA members. Because the organization currently has so few members, Davis said DPA will have an annual or biannual initiation. The next initiation is scheduled for the end of November.

Because it’s a national honor society, Davis said students involved in DPA will have lifetime membership. Davis said DPA has the same goals nationwide — to broaden, enhance and educate themselves about German culture on campus and beyond.

Davis said she thinks DPA is a wonderful opportunity for students to be involved outside the classroom. She said being part of an organization gives students pride in their accomplishments, which Davis said is very important for professional development.

DPA president senior Katrina Goosey said so far this semester DPA has hosted a presentation for Majors Day where it tried to recruit freshmen with an interest in the German language. Goosey said recruiting underclassmen will prevent DPA from slipping downhill in terms of the number of active mem-



Emily Ploch/Index

Delta Phi Alpha members meet to discuss plans for upcoming events. These events emphasize educating students about German language and culture.

bers, because the underclassmen will be able to stay with the honor society much longer.

Students must be enrolled in German classes above the 300 level to be eligible for DPA membership, she said. She said she thinks DPA will be able to recruit five to eight students for its November initiation.

Goosey said she hopes students get a sense of community from being in the club. Most members of DPA are German majors, and she said she hopes bringing students into the organization will join them together.

Once the organization grows, Goosey said she wants to see the foreign language departments collaborate for events.

Sophomore Dana Megargle, DPA secretary and treasurer, said she would like to see a larger collaboration as well.

Because of the small size of the group, Megargle said she accepted two officer positions. She said of the 10 members, five hold officer positions. Megargle said she hopes to move her way up to president or vice president by her senior year.

“I would like for people to see that this language requirement isn’t a bad thing,” Megargle said. “I think that learning a foreign language is important towards your education.”

Megargle said it’s exciting to be part of an organization that allows her to share a passion for the German language with anyone else who is interested.

DPA has meetings 4 p.m. every other Sunday in McClain Hall 306. For information, contact Davis at andavis@truman.edu.

With you from
your first day of
class, to your
first futon, to
your first house.



At U.S. Bank, we offer Student Banking that can grow with you. Our Student Checking account has no monthly maintenance fee or minimum balance,¹ free access to more than 5,000 U.S. Bank ATMs, and convenient Online and Mobile Banking.² And when your needs change, you’ll have the resources of U.S. Bank ready to help. **Start the journey with us today.**

Kirksville Office
202 East McPherson
660.665.8374

Kirksville North Office
2202 North Baltimore
660.665.1000

 branch  usbank.com/student  800.771.BANK (2265)

usbank

1. All regular account-opening procedures apply. \$25 minimum deposit to open an account. Fees for nonroutine transactions may apply. 2. The U.S. Bank Mobile App is free to download. Your mobile carrier may charge access fees depending upon your individual plan. Web access is needed to use the Mobile app. Check with your carrier for specific fees and charges. Some mobile features may require additional online setup. Any fees for optional transactions will be identified during registration for these services and during their use. For a comprehensive list of account pricing, terms and policies, see the Consumer Pricing Information brochure and the Your Deposit Account Agreement. Deposit Products offered by U.S. Bank National Association. Member FDIC. 150469 8/15