# OCC to offer 2 honors courses in winter

preparation, Oakland Community College will offer two classes for nonor students during the upcoming

honor students during the upcoming winter semester.

"Honors American Literature" and "Analysis of Social Problems" will be offered from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays on OCC's Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills.

OCC students attending any one of the college's five campuses may take the honors courses.
"The courses are one of the products of the college's Quest for Excellence program begun in 1944," said Dr. Donald Nichols, academic dean at Orchard Ridge.
"For the past 20 years we have of ferred the typical two-year transfer and vocational/technical programs, and there was a need to expand our olferings."

A COLLEGE-WIDE committee was established to examine honors programs among the nation's 1,200 community colleges.

OCC faculty and area high school counselors also expressed support for the concept of honors courses.

There was disagreement: Some faculty thought an honors program was elitist while others wanted a fullblown curriculum. The compromise: two pilot courses.

hey felt the availability of the experience would encourage students with high scholastic aptitudes to attend coilege in the local community.

"One of the complications that arose during the investigation of programs was disagreement over what form the honors program should take. The discussion ranged from facuity who believe that such a program was elitist and inappropriate for community colleges to those who wanted a full-blown honors curriculum." Nichols said.

"The compromise was to begin on a pilot basis with two courses — a class in ilterature and one in sociology that will start in January and run 15 weeks."

"HONORS AMERICAN Literature" will be taught by OCC faculty Bill Alexander. Solected by students as a favored lecturer and a specialist. In his discipline, Alexander will emphasize the works of Southern ovelist William Faulkner.
"The course will challenge students to delive deeply into the intraccies of writings of the American 17th and 19th centuries, and focus on the relevancy of themes that span a group of writers and periods of time," Alexander said.
"Analysis of Social Problems" will be taught by OCC faculty Richard Smith. A tenured professor and chairman of the Orchard Ridge sociology department, Smith has been

active in updating curricular approaches and adapting courses to a variety of student populations. He was a finalist in the 1986 OCC outstanding faculty award.

"Over the years, most of the social issues have remained in the 'problem' area. Beology and women's liberation are among the newest issues. Students will be asked to use data and observe trends to make projections regarding emerging so clai problems," Smith said.

ADMISSION TO the Honors Programs is limited to currently en-rolled OCC students who have dem-onstrated academic excellence.

Although a faculty recommenda-tion is required, interested students also may meet with instructors and

# Culinary arts open house at OCC campus

A cultary arts open house will start at 7 p.m. Thursday at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills. Refreshements will be served, and advanced students will present a competition to be judged by top-lefs in the region. Students also will demonstrate cake decorating, tableside cooking, vegetable carring and napkin folding. The stxth annual open house will be in J Building. The campus is Orchard Lake Road and 1-986 freeway. Information about the cultiour arts programs is available from the college at 471-4786.



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Professor Richard Smith (left) will teach "Analysis of Social Problems," and Bill Alexander will lead "Honors American Literature,"

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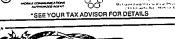
Oakland Community College's first two hon-

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express their interest in the program.

The OCC honors committee will evaluate the response to these two new courses, anticipating that a furl arage of honors courses in the liberal arts will eventually be offered.

New courses for the second-year students are in the development phase. "Advanced Philosophy" will utilize a team-teaching approach

with professors from different sub-ject areas. "World Views" is a course designed to meld cultural, re-ligious, and social-psychological per-spectives. Arrangements are also being made with the college registrar to designate honors sections on student transcripts. The college already de-notes high academic achievement on diplomas earned by students.

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