

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

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YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Youngstown State University students majoring in civil engineering are being presented with an offer "almost too good to refuse," according to Dr. Jack D. Bakos, chairman of YSU's Civil Engineering Department.

Those who attend and successfully complete a special, free Spring Quarter course created in cooperation with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) will be hired as student interns with ODOT this summer.

Any civil engineering student, sophomore and above, who is not on a student visa, may register up to April 10 by contacting Dr. Bakos, the project coordinator, at (216) 742-3027. There is no tuition charge, and there will be no textbook purchases.

Campus classes will be taught by ODOT personnel from the District 4 Office in Ravenna and will meet from 3 to 5 p.m. every Friday for eight weeks, beginning April 10.

There will be no academic credit for the course, and successful completion will be based solely on attendance.

In addition to getting persons who have had some engineering courses, Dr. Bakos said the training of prospective summer interns prior to the construction season will mean less on-the-job training is required by ODOT, making the interns more productive over a longer period of time.

The job experience the students receive should enhance their professional training and potential, and could develop into later employment opportunities with ODOT, he added.

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Dr. Bakos said, "This unique cooperative effort between YSU and this state agency again demonstrates the University's commitment to serve the educational and training needs of the community while, at the same time, providing the students with valuable job experience."

He said the course topics will include plan reading, construction specifications, job safety, the bidding process, testing procedures, construction procedures, equipment and materials.

The last session on May 29 will be devoted to completing papers to hire those who successfully complete the course.

For most interns, the work will extend from early June to late September when YSU's Fall Quarter begins. Pay will be from \$6 to \$6.50 an hour based on a 40 hour work week.

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