E 346K deletion causes confusion

By Mark Shaw

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Students who had planned on registering for English 346K for the summer were informed Monday that the course has been suspended indefinitely even though it appears in the summer course catalog, a Department of English adviser said.

"English 346K is not being offered at all," said Maurine McElroy, an undergraduate adviser in the Department of English. "The course was suspended during the spring semester and will be postponed until further notice."

Although E 346K, Writing for Different Disciplines, was suspended in February, the course was listed in the summer course schedule because the schedule was already being printed when the course was postponed. Students who had planned on taking the course during summer school to fulfill degree requirements found out during registration Monday that the course would not be offered.

"I didn't find out until today that the course had been canceled," said Mike Sharpe, a civil engineering senior. "The main reason I stayed in Austin this summer was to take the course."

But faculty members at the University said students should have been informed of the cancellation by their advisers.

"The information was put out to advisers when the English department announced the postponement," said Charles Sorber, associate dean for academic affairs for the College of Engineering.

Engineering students are required to take a technical writing course in order to graduate. In the present College of Engineering catalog, students must take E 346K to fulfill that requirement.

"There are three options for engineering students," Sorber said. "Students can take Speech 317, English 317 by correspondence or English 317 at another school," Sorber said. E 317 was replaced by E 346K as a technical writing course in fall 1984.

English 346K was made an optional requirement and then was postponed indefinitely in February so problems with the course could be worked out.

Although alternatives to the course are available, students who had planned on taking E 346K at the University said the course should not have been canceled.

"It's stupid to drop it. It's an important course," said Bill Rogers, a petroleum engineering senior.

Although faculty members said advisers and students should have been informed of the postponement, a number of students and staff members were unaware that the course had been canceled for the summer.