English classes added

By W. GARDNER SELBY Daily Texan Staff

Most sections of freshman and sophomore English had teachers Monday, a situation considerably better than last spring, a Department of English spokesman said Monday.

"We've got this reasonably under control compared to past years. We did a lot of pre-planning this time and anticipated that enrollments would increase," said Joseph Kruppa, associate department chairman, who spent the weekend in his Parlin Hall office outlining last-minute teaching assignments.

Kruppa said an "astonishing" jump in sophomore English enrollments forced the hiring of about 10 additional lecturers at the last minute. From 135 sophomore writing and literature courses last fall, the number of sections Monday reached 176, he said. And 63 persons have been hired to fill part- and full-time lecturer spots, he said Monday.

From a total of 495 undergraduate and graduate English sections last fall, the number of classes this fall increased to 554.

"This is an enormous jump," Kruppa said.

Cause for the increase in sophomore enrollments can be traced back to last fall and spring when many students had to be turned away from sophomore English classes because the limited number of sections were full, Kruppa said.

Composition courses are limited to 25 students, while literature courses are kept at 40 students.

Last January. unanticipated enrollment increases in lower division English courses coupled with the lack of funds to hire teachers raised the possibility of leaving 40 classes without teachers. But Robert King, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, found what he called "soft money" funds from other departments and faculty salaries — to avert the lecturer shortage.

And during the spring and summer the UT administration, with the approval of President Peter Flawn, assured the English department that there is money to pay for as many lecturers as are needed, Kruppa said.

The available money was intended to prevent overcrowding and lower assistant instructors' teaching loads from four classes per nine months to three.

Usually some classes fail to "make" during registration, Kruppa said, but this year almost every class achieved the enrollment necessary to stay alive.