is in a special program

The summer student is often a college or secondary school teacher like Sister Marie Peters and M. J. Schade (above), who are making DNA chromosome stains as participants in the NSF Biology Institute designed to keep them up-to-date. Other special programs are in math, ecology, history, computers, foreign languages.

THE SUMMER

Photographed by J. P. Smith

Everything's a bit different during the summer session. Class periods are 60 minutes instead of 50; the term is compressed to eight weeks from the customary sixteen. And then there's the weather. The oppressive Oklahoma heat which on most days would make a Bedouin feel at home has a strong effect on the change in tempo that is noticeable during June and July. Despite the concentrated class time which would seem to indicate a more hectic gait, the atmosphere is deceptively casual and somehow seems more relaxed than the fall and spring semesters. The accouterments and diversions, of course, reflect the tropical climate also. It's time for sunglasses, sandals, bermuda shorts, golf, swimming, boating, water skiing, cookouts, picnics, bikinis, miniskirts, and—oh yes, some studying. Quite a lot in fact, for the summer session is not a summer camp or a gathering for fun-and-games. The summer student is different, too. For one thing, he's older. Many are teachers taking a busman's holiday to improve themselves. Of the 5,559 students on the Norman campus (32 fewer than last year) 2,436 are graduate students, almost as many as the 2,836 undergraduates (and 106 law students, 181 unclassifieds). To find the typical summer student we sent Photographer J. P. Smith and his camera out on a typical summer day. Somewhere among these four pages our average summer school student is pictured. Maybe.

goesto the water

New Lake Thunderbird, only a few minutes—as the Corvette flies—from campus, is attracting the summer student. Boating is popular—sail (see Campus Notes) or noisy machine—and when classwork becomes too dry, it's nice to have a wet antidote nearby.
is a good-looking girl

Enhancing the beauty of the gardens on the South Oval is Laura Peck, a pre-nursing sophomore from Dewey. Pretty coeds contribute noticeably to campus beautification during June and July, and summer school would be a dreary place without them.

STUDENT...

is taught by profs who cool it

Who says professors have no common sense? In the summer they display impressive practicality by shedding coats and ties in the classroom. Short sleeves and open collars as worn by Dr. Leslie Smith are the cool rule. Hat styles vary little—from Dr. Hollon’s cowboy straw to Dr. Berenda’s pith helmet.

studies a lot

The concentrated eight-week term encourages concentrated study from the summer student, and the air-conditioned library is a favorite spot to hit the books. Typical of many SSs are (left to right) Mrs. Elizabeth Sweeney, a teacher at Chilocco Indian School with a son at OU; Karl Merz, a native of Germany finishing a PhD in French, and Mrs. Elizabeth Mills, an elementary school teacher working on a master’s.
The accent is on comfort in the Oklahoma heat. The summer student dresses casually: shorts, cotton dresses are common; coats, ties, hose, and heels rare. Many, like the coed at left, buckle up for summer with sandals.

**is sandaled**

For some the session is a family affair. This summer student, his wife, and child are enjoying the serenity of the old golf course, perfect place for a family picnic (and not bad for the single set’s moonlight walks).
doesn't study all the time

Of course the library is not large enough to handle all 5,559 summer students. Waiting for a vacancy are these sunshine patriots (from left to right) Genie Redmond, Jean Belm, Carol Dishman, and Mrs. Jeanne Housley, who know how to use an apartment pool.

is mobile

Two-wheelers proliferate in the summer. The bicycles, scooters, motorbikes keep the summer student mobile.

is a nun

Sister Mary Jacob, O.P., is attending the NSF Biology Institute from New Haven, Conn, where she is a secondary school teacher. The flowing habit of the nun is not an unusual sight on the campus. A sizeable contingent are summer students.