

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this course of study is to furnish a basis of work for classes interested in child study.

The subject of human development from infancy to maturity is being recognized in colleges and among intelligent people elsewhere as one of the very greatest importance. It is the crown of biology and one of the bases of ethics. With such study is naturally associated investigation into those changes in human development which may be wrought by environment and training. These are of the deepest interest to all who care for the physical, mental, social and moral betterment of mankind. Child study and child training are, therefore, two closely related subjects of study.

The methods of study are these. The text gives a few of the commonly accepted facts, with page references to authorities for further reading. Interchange of experience and observation in the class will add to the knowledge of all. The "laboratory" method of directed observation is particularly emphasized during the latter part of the course, when the student has become prepared to do such work wisely.

The course is directed definitely toward a wiser parenthood. Young people today are coming to realize that they are not seriously facing the chief probability of mature life unless they do so with intelligence. Those who are already parents know that they need all the wisdom that is available. Not only students in normal schools, but those outside such institutions who intend to be teachers in secular or religious schools are demanding instruction in child study and child training.