

Philosophical Sciences; the other two may be chosen from any of these. For example the first six might be Latin, French, English Literature, Rhetoric, Mathematics, Chemistry, Political Economy; the other two might be Greek and German, or Modern English and Astronomy, or Physics and Moral Philosophy, etc. In the Louisville Seminary there is a fixed course for each degree.

2. Its weak point is the loss of the class spirit and whatever stimulus that affords.

3. Its advantages are :

(1) It adjusts itself easily and naturally to the ability of the student. One may be able to pursue work satisfactorily in five or six different classes; another may find himself taxed to his utmost to keep up with three; whilst the average student will do thorough work in four. They go just as rapidly as they can go thoroughly. Sometimes a man who has been unaccustomed to study may cover but little in his first session; but with practice his ability to work grows, and in the last two years of his undergraduate course he may succeed comfortably in making up for his early slowness.

(2) Thoroughness can be, and is, insisted upon. The pass mark is 75 per cent. This means better education.

(3) Each class can cover more work in a session. If, in a class, any student begins to fall behind in spite of earnest application, he is advised to take less work, i. e., to drop one class. There is no obligation on the part of the teacher to hold the class back for his sake.

This involves two very important advantages :

(a) It lessens the number of classes and so makes for economy.

(b) It makes it possible to do a higher order of work.

(4) Since there is not the same unyielding pressure on the slow student there is less danger of men becoming discouraged, or breaking in health.

This is a very brief and imperfect sketch. I have striven to state as simply as possible, what seem to me to be the merits and demerits of each plan. If I seem to regard the Southern plan as the best, it is not because I have sought to do any special pleading. I have tried to state the facts just as I have found them in actual experience.