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**A Bulletin Concerning**  
**Religious and Moral Education**  
**“The Greeley Plan”**

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**GREELEY, COLORADO**

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In all the publications of this institution the spellings recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board are used.



## Introductory Statement

The State Teachers College of Colorado conducts courses in non-residence under two somewhat distinct plans—the Individual Correspondence Plan, and the Group Plan. The courses in Bible Study are arranged for the Group Plan, and credit is granted for work done in this course in the same way that credit is granted for work done in any other study. Interest has been shown all over the country in this work to such an extent that it has become necessary to set forth in print and in detail the plan of conducting these courses. This material might just as well have been included in the College Non-Resident Bulletin, but since it has some special features which need a fuller explanation than space in that Bulletin would have permitted, and since this information is called for by many who are not interested in other group-study courses, this work has been put into this form—a Bulletin independent of the regular Non-Resident Bulletin, but in a sense a supplement to it.

**The Plan and the Law.**—The State Teachers College of Colorado has for a long time been thoroughly alive to the need for something more systematic and effective in Religious and Moral Education than has yet been offered in the public schools or in the Sunday schools. It is well aware of the fact that as a state educational institution it cannot with propriety offer courses in religion; for it is next to impossible for even the broadest minded religionist to give such courses of instruction free from the touch of personal or denominational coloring.

Nor does the college wish to ignore or evade the legal restriction regarding the expenditure of state money for any form of religious instruction. It was this desire to comply with both the letter and the spirit of the law and at the same time to provide adequate religious and moral training for its students, themselves preparing to be teachers of children, that moved the college four years ago to try as an experiment what has now become known all over the country as "The Greeley Plan for Religious and Moral Instruction in State Institutions."

**The Fundamental Idea.**—The State Teachers College frequently is requested to accept work done in other institutions of learning, in other schools, and in private study, and to allow the

credit granted for such work to be applied toward making up the total requirement for graduation. It has never been particular about the name or kind of institution from which such work is brought, but it has been careful to inquire into the quality and quantity of the work presented. It sees no reason why credit should not be granted to a student who, in another college, has had a course in Biblical literature or history. Nor does it see why such credit should depend upon the kind of school from which it comes. To put the same idea positively, if the college receives an application for credit for work done elsewhere, in college, school, Sunday school, or in private study, it carefully inquires about the QUALITY of the work, bases its judgment on the criterion of scholarship alone, and grants or refuses credit as the case deserves.

## The History of the Plan

Four years ago the Young Women's Christian Association, a strong organization in the school, was conducting Bible classes of small groups of students. These classes appealed only to those affiliated with the evangelical churches. They were viewed with disapproval by other denominations, and, in fact, received but half-hearted support from the local churches with which these students were associated. The ministers complained that students who should attend their churches and Sunday schools felt that their religious obligations had been met if they had attended the weekly devotional meeting of the Young Women's Christian Association and the study group to which they belonged. The students had but little to do with the local churches. What they got in their study-groups was not an intellectual foundation for faith, but merely personal application of religious precept—good enough so far as it goes but insufficient for one who is seeking to become an educated person in an intellectual age.

The dissatisfaction of the local ministers with the plan became acute. Certain of the denominations objected to the exclusion of their adherents from active membership in the Young Women's Christian Association. And then necessity found the way out. One of the most scholarly of the local ministers, Mr. DeWitt D. Forward, a man of knowledge, of insight, and of great enthusiasm—conferred with the President of the Advisory Board of

the Young Women's Christian Association, and after going into the matter thoroly, they made a report to the President of the College, asking that arrangements be made for conducting Bible study groups in the churches of the city and granting credit for the work in the same manner that credit was being granted for other non-resident work.

The President accepted the recommendation and askt the director of non-resident work to confer with a committee composed of the President of the Advisory Board, and the Student President of the Young Women's Christian Association, and representativs of the local ministers' organization to work out the plan in detail.

Originally the ministers of the Baptist, Methodist, Congregational, and Roman Catholic churches were members of the committee.

The report that they made to the President coverd five details of organization: The Course of Study, the Text-books to be Used, the Appointment of Teachers, the Organization of Classes, and the Method of Granting Credit for the Work. In the test of actual practis a few changes were found to be desirable; but in the main the plan in use at present is identical with that originally proposed.

The credit for the erly success of this work is largely due to the enthusiasm, clear vision, and patience of the Reverend De-Witt D. Forward, Mrs. May Miller Cross, and Mrs. Ethel Dullam Knowles, who launched the movement and saw it thru its erly struggles. The two ladies were during the first two years of trial successivly President of the Advisory Board of the Young Women's Christian Association. Credit must be given also to Mrs. Anna Hileman Hugh, Bible Study Chairman of the Christian Association's Advisory Board, for the practical direction of the work in the Association; the Reverend Father Andrew B. Casey, for his intelligent and persistent support of the movement, and the winning of the approval of the authorities of the Roman Catholic church in the Colorado diocese.

The College Director of Bible Study for the first year was E. A. Cross, Professor of Literature and English. Then the work was directed until the present year by the Professor of Education, Dr. Irving E. Miller, now connected with the University of Rochester.

## The Plan in Detail

**The Course of Study.**—In the Teachers College students are accepted for entrance whose preparation has covered the usual four-year course in a reputable high school or the equivalent of that. The college course designed to prepare teachers for elementary school positions is two years in length. Since most of our students go out to teach at the end of this course of two years, the plan provided for the foundations of a knowledge of Biblical history and literature to be established in the work of two years. The committee was painfully aware of the lack of information about the contents of the Bible which is characteristic of most young people of our time. They said, then, that the two-years' course should aim to give the student, not a detailed, but a comprehensive study of the story of the Hebrew people, legendary and historical; of the growth of their religious ideas; and of the life and teachings of Jesus. It recommended that a comprehensive, consecutive study of the books of the Old Testament should be the work of the first year, and that the life and teachings of Jesus should be taken up in the second.

This recommendation was adopted and has been adhered to from the beginning. Some supplementary lessons having to do with teaching methods in the Sunday schools are given in some of the classes at the option of the teacher.

The work for the third and fourth years, designed for students who remain in the college for the A.B. degree, and for preparation for positions as supervisors, principals, and teachers of high school subjects, covers in a more detailed way some particular period of Biblical history, with emphasis upon the social and ethical significance of the book studied. This work is given in only one or two of the churches, and then only when there is a number of third or fourth year students, who have had the work of the first two years, large enough to warrant the organization of such classes. These courses are outlined more fully in a later section of this Bulletin.

**Text-Books.**—No one text-book is required. The committee originally recommended a book for each year as a guide to the student in his study of the actual text-book, the Bible. This recommendation is still made. It is understood by all, however,

that this is only a recommendation. If the teacher in any one of the churches prefers a book other than the one named by the committee, the book is submitted to the College Director of Bible Study for his approval, and being found acceptable, is used in that class as a substitute for the recommended book.

For the first year, the Old Testament studies, the committee recommends, Georgia L. Chamberlain's "An Introduction to the Bible for Teachers of Children," or Chamberlain's "The Hebrew Prophets." These books are to be supplemented by such others as Professor Kent's "Historical Bible," Cornill's "History of the People of Israel," Cornill's "Prophets of Israel," and for special topics by "The Encyclopaedia Britannica," "The Catholic Encyclopaedia," "The Jewish Encyclopaedia," and Hasting's "Dictionary of the Bible."

For the second year, the New Testament studies, Burgess' "Life of Christ," has been used for some years, and Kent's "The Life and Teachings of Jesus" at other times. Classes in the Roman Catholic church have used Abbe Fouard's "The Life of Christ," and Pope's "The Prophets of Israel." Some variations in text-books from time to time have been authorized for the classes in the Episcopal church and others.

**Teachers.**—The success of this work depends *almost entirely* upon the quality of the teaching. The college is very careful in the selection of persons not members of its regular faculty to conduct its work in non-resident groups. It is especially careful in selecting teachers for its groups in Bible study. The teachers are nominated by the superintendents of the Sunday schools. They must then be approved by the College Director of Bible Study before the work of the class will be accepted for credit. The college insists upon the teachers having a good general education, usually indicated by a college degree. Besides this the teacher must have special preparation for teaching the Bible, and personal fitness for this kind of work. In the nine Greeley churches now supporting these classes all the teachers have had their training in a college or a theological seminary, all but one are graduates, and four out of the nine are Masters of Arts or Philosophy. Every one of the nine meets the requirements of personal fitness and special preparation for teaching the Bible.

**Classes.**—When the students are enrolled in the college, the Director of Bible Study asks for their church membership or church preference. A list of students preferring a certain church is sent to the pastor of the church. These are then invited by the pastor to join the Bible study class in that church and to take the work either for credit or without, as the student desires. Persons not enrolled in the college may take the work in these classes without credit; or if they desire the college credit, they may enroll as non-resident students.

**Credit.**—The regular work for a student in the college is 60 term hours per year—20 hours a term of twelve weeks. Bible study for the full year of 36 weeks is given *four* term hours of credit. This is equivalent to one-fifteenth of the whole year's work, and may be taken in addition to the twenty term hours required of the resident student. To earn this credit of four term hours the student must attend a minimum of twenty-eight lessons of forty-five minutes each extending throughout the year.

The college reserves the right to set a final examination upon the year's work, but usually the student is asked to present his class note-book and a short thesis covering some piece of independent study at the end of each twelve-week term. These are first read and approved by the teacher of the class and then submitted to the college director for his approval. Work of an inferior quality is not accepted. The amount and the quality of this work compares very favorably with that of any department in the college.

## The Success of the Plan

From the beginning the plan has been a success. In the first year about a hundred and fifty students were enrolled in the classes, and about one-third of these took the work for credit. There has been no great wave of enthusiasm followed by a deadly falling off; but instead, a healthy increase in numbers and efficiency from year to year. This year there are vigorous classes in nine churches in Greeley—the Methodist Episcopal, Baptist, Congregational, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, United Presbyterian, Unitarian, Episcopal, and Disciples of Christ. The total number enrolled is 271, more than fifty per cent. of the students en-



rolled in the college. One hundred and forty-five of these are taking the work for college credit.

The plan meets with the approval of all the protestant churches of the city, and of the Roman Catholic and Unitarian bodies. The plan has been presented to eminent teachers of the Jewish faith and has been commended by them. On the legal side it has been declared within the law, for no public money is spent to support the work, and none of the teaching is done within the college walls. In accepting the work for credit the college treats courses in Bible study just as it does courses in mathematics or domestic science—accepting or rejecting the student's work as it is found academically satisfactory or unsatisfactory.

Thus far the college has not thought fit to extend this non-resident course to other cities than Greeley. So long as the plan is an experiment the authorities wish to keep the work under the personal supervision of the director, who serves without remuneration, and does this work in addition to that which is regularly his as the head of the literary department of the college. This must be so to comply with the law. Any extension of the course to take in other cities would make the supervision less effective, or necessitate the employment of a supervisor—an impossibility under the law.

## The Present Organization

### 1914-1915

For the year 1914 and 1915 the joint committee on course of study is composed of the following persons:

Representatives of the churches:

Reverend Franklin J. Estabrook, of the First Congregational Church, Chairman.

Reverend Father Andrew B. Casey, of Saint Peter's Roman Catholic Church.

Reverend William D. Whan, of the First Baptist Church.

Representativs of the Young Women's Christian Association:

Mrs. Edwin W. Knowles.  
Mrs. David Douglas Hugh.

Representativs of the College:

Professor James Harvey Hays, Dean of the College and  
Director of Non-Resident Work.

Professor Ethan Allen Cross, Director of Bible Study.

**Classes in Greeley Churches.**—Classes ar at present organized in the folloing churches:

Baptist.....Mrs. J. W. Church, A.M., Teacher  
Congregational.....Mr. E. A. Cross, Ph.M., Teacher  
Disciples of Christ.....Miss Linnie D. Coil, A.B., Teacher  
Protestant Episcopal.....Mrs. Charles Seem, A.M., Teacher  
Methodist Episcopal.....Mr. George W. Finley, B.S., Teacher  
Roman Catholic.....Father Andrew B. Casey, Teacher  
Presbyterian.....Rev. J. W. Finley, A.B., Teacher  
United Presbyterian.....Mrs. H. M. Bull, Teacher  
Unitarian.....Rev. John C. Mitchell, B.D., Teacher

The directions belo ar the regulations sent out to the teachers to govern the work of the year:

**Course of Study.**—Theme of the year's work: "The Old Testament." Text-books suggested: Chamberlain, "The Hebrew Prophets"; or Chamberlain, "Introduction to the Bible for Teachers of Children." The Catholic Clas wil use the Catholic Encyclopedia; and Pope, "Introduction to the Study of the Old Testament." Other text-books acceptable to the committee in point of scholarship may be arranged for, but the course of study for credit must be as outlined in this circular. In addition to the main text, it is expected that some supplementary text on Bible History wil be used, such as Cornill, "History of Israel," one vol.; or Kent, "History of the Hebrew People," three vols.; or some other modern standard text-book representing the results of the best recent scholarship. Every student wil be required to read selected portions of the Old Testament, which illustrate the development of Hebrew life and faith.

**Supplementary Material:** The College library contains the folloing books, among others, which ar available for supplementen-

tary reading on the course: Hastings, Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics; Hastings, Dictionary of the Bible; The Jewish Encyclopedia; The Catholic Encyclopedia; The Encyclopedia Britannica; Moulton, Modern Reader's Bible; Smith, G. A., History and Geograpy of the Holy Land; Wallis, Sociological Study of the Bible; Mitchell, Ethics of the Old Testament; Dewey and Tufts, Ethics, ch. 6, The Hebrew Moral Development; Abbott, Life and Literature of the Old Testament; Moulton, Literary Study of the Bible; Vernon, Relativ Value of the Old Testament; Kent, Origin and Permanent Value of the Old Testament; Kent, History of the Bible; Cornill, The Prophets of Israel.

**Credits.**—Four hours credit (the equivalent of one clas reciting four times a week for one term) ar allowed for three terms of work. This credit may be ernd in addition to the regular twenty hours each term. Bible Study credit wil be recorded on the books of the College only upon completion of the work of the year, and must be the practical equivalent hour for hour of resident work done at the College.

**Requirements for the Erning of Credit.**—1. Reading of the Scripture assignments. 2. Satisfactory study of text-books and reference material. 3. Presentation at the close of each term of a note-book on lessons and requird reading. 4. Preparation every term of a short essay on some vital topic of the course suggested or previously approved by the teacher. 5. Thirty lessons of approximately forty-five minutes each, with certified attendance of twenty-eight as a minimum.

**Regulations.**—1. Term reports of the grade of work done by every student enrolld for credit must be presented to the Director. This report shall include also the filing with the Director of the teacher's certificate of attendance and the requird note-books and essays graded by the teacher that they may be subject to the inspection of the committee and final approval by the Director.

2. Essays and note-books should be filed with the Director not later than the opening of the term immediately folloing that in which the work was done, except in the spring term, when they must be put on file not later than two weeks before the close of that term. Keep loose-leaf note-books.

3. Once every term at the call of the Director there shall be a meeting of all the teachers of the Bible classes for consultation with one another and with the committee in charge of the work.

4. Clas lists of all students enrolld for credit must be filed with the Director upon his request erly in each term.

**Recommendations.**—The committee recommends that every clas elect a President and Secretary and such committees as may be helpful in making the work of the Bible classes most efficient from every point of view. The Presidents of the classes besides performing the customary duties of their offis may serve as the official media between their classes and the Director in many matters of necessary routine.

**Privileges.**—College students may enroll for credit in these classes without payment of any additional fee. The classes ar all open alike on a non-credit basis either to students of the college or patrons of the various churches without payment of a fee. Members of these classes not enrolld at the college who may desire credit for their work should make arrangement for the same with Dean Hays in advance, or not later than the end of the first term of work.

## The Course of Study

### FIRST YEAR

#### The Old Testament:

The History of the Hebrew people.

The growth of the Hebrew religius ideas and ideals, traced thru Hebrew legends, stories, history, and finally in the sayings of the prophets.

### SECOND YEAR

#### The Life of Christ:

The events in the life of Jesus.

How, when, and where Jesus lived.

How Jesus worked and what he taught.

The extended influence of the teachings and examples of Jesus.

### THIRD YEAR

A detailed study of some phase of the Old or New Testament, such as the Acts of the Apostles, and a study of methods of teaching applicable to religious education.

### FOURTH YEAR

A detailed study of some book or group of books of the Old or New Testament not previously covered in the third year. Teaching methods.

NOTE.—It will be observed that it is the purpose of the work of the first two years to acquaint the students with the contents of the Bible. No detailed study of a particular section of it, such as is attempted in the third and fourth years, can be very successful unless the student has already a larger stock of Biblical information than the average beginner possesses. After the foundation is laid in the first two years, the student is ready for a more careful study of any phase of the literature or history of the Bible that the third or fourth year groups may take up.

## The Plan Adapted to High Schools

A committee composed of members of the Colorado State Sunday School Association and the State Teachers' Association has made an adaptation of this plan to meet the needs of high schools. This plan to give high school credit for Bible study done in the Sunday schools of the various towns and cities was taken up by a number of the high schools last September (1914). The following extracts from the Teachers' Handbook of the Colorado Plan of Bible Study for Colleges and High Schools, and a Bible Study Syllabus for the High School Students, will explain this extension of "The Greeley Plan." A large part of the labor of preparing this course of study for high schools and securing its adoption in Colorado has fallen to the Reverend Dr. W. A. Phillips, President of Westminster College, Denver, Colorado.

The plan provides that there shall be a four years' elective course of Bible study for high school students, which shall be adapted to the unfolding life of the pupils, and correlated with the Curriculum of the high schools. These courses of study are

to be given by the respective churches, Hebrew, Catholic and Protestant alike, at the Sunday school hour if possible, under the instruction of qualified teachers. The pupils successfully completing the course of study shall receive academic credit for work done.

**Within the Law.**—The plan is clearly within the law. No state or public school building is used for religious instruction. No state funds are used. No religious instruction is given by public school teachers during school hours. The work is conducted in the respective churches during Sunday school hours under competent teachers and is recognized for credit by the high schools of the state. Each denomination, each sect, is therefore privileged to impart instruction to its own children and according to its own canons of interpretation.

**The Plan in Detail.**—This plan necessitates the standardization of our Sunday schools. If the pupils are to receive academic credit for work done in the Sunday schools, these schools must conform to academic standards of education. The standards of the North Central Association of colleges and secondary schools have been accepted by educators and Sunday school workers of Colorado as the only adequate standard of efficiency for the Sunday school.

**Requirements for Teachers.**—The teachers of these high school Bible study classes shall conform to the recognized standard, namely: "The minimum scholastic attainment of high school teachers shall be equivalent to graduation from a college belonging to the North Central Association of colleges and secondary schools, including special training in the subjects they teach."

**Requirements for the State Sunday School Association.**—The State Sunday School Association should maintain and conduct annually graded training schools for Sunday school teachers, in order that the teachers of these high school classes may be given special training in the subjects they are to teach. Already through the keen foresight and wise provision of former General Secretary, Rev. John C. Carman, such schools have been organized throughout the state. The response to this program for Religious Education was

evidenced in the fact that last year over seven hundred men and women were enlisted in these graded training schools.

**Requirements for Pupils.**—Pupils desiring to do work in these Bible study classes should be eligible to membership in an accredited high school, and should expect to conform to all high school requirements concerning attendance, deportment, general attitude and character of work done.

**Requirements for Sunday Schools.**—Church schools should provide the class with a separate room, freedom from interruption for at least forty-five minutes, desks or table room sufficient for each pupil to work conveniently, a black-board, maps of the ancient world, Palestine and the Roman Empire at the time of Christ, a Bible dictionary, and such reference works as those suggested by the committees on Bible study and recommended by the church authorities. A studious atmosphere must be maintained throughout the forty-five minutes.

**Requirements for Credit.**—(a) The unit of credit shall be that prescribed in the standards of the North Central Association, to wit: forty recitations of forty-five minutes each in the year, each year for a period of four years. There should be a minimum of one hour of study on each assigned lesson. Fractional credits may be allowed on the same basis.

(b) In estimating the work done by the pupil the recitations and either note-book or thesis work, at the discretion of the teacher, shall count one-half and the examination or thesis required by the state examiner shall count one-half. The passing mark shall be the same as in the local high school.

**Requirements for State Examinations.**—(a) The committees on Bible study for high schools from the State Teachers' Association and the State Sunday School Association shall constitute the State Committee of Examiners.

This committee shall have general charge of all Bible study work done for academic credit in the Sunday schools and churches of the state; prescribe all necessary rules relating to study, recitation, note-books, thesis, and written examinations; prepare questions (if found helpful) for the use of teachers in the examinations; and grade all papers, appointing such help as may be needed.

Each paper or note-book submitted for credit shall be accompanied by a fee of twenty-five cents paid by the corresponding Sunday school, and by a written endorsement of the writer from the teacher in charge, or from the superintendent or pastor. All papers, note-books, and teachers' endorsements, shall be submitted anonymously to the examiners; that is, the names, addresses, and church connections of the writers must either be erased or effectively covered, each paper being then known by number only.

(b) In any case of uncertainty or dissatisfaction, appeal may be taken to the Committee of Examiners who shall decide any question at issue according to the customary requirements of the local high school.

**Courses of Study.**—There shall be courses of Bible study prepared by the joint committees from the State Teachers' Association and the State Sunday School Association, embracing historical, biographical, social and literary studies of the Bible on a basis sufficiently liberal to meet the approval of the various religious faiths interested in such courses of Bible study, great care being taken to avoid interpretative features.

The following courses of Bible study have been proposed by the joint committee:

#### COURSE I.

Heroes and Leaders of Israel.

#### COURSE II.

1st Semester. The Friends and Followers of Jesus.

2nd Semester. Jesus.

#### COURSE III.

1st Semester. Bible History.

2nd Semester. Biblical Literature.

#### COURSE IV.

Social Institutions, or a course on the Fundamental Christian Doctrines of the Bible, and Social Application of Bible Teachings.



The details of the courses, methods of teaching, aims of the study, etc., may be had by addressing The State Sunday School Association of Colorado, 312 Seventeenth Street, Denver, Colorado.

## Conclusion

In the foregoing pages an attempt has been made to set forth the principles and working details of the "Greeley Plan of Bible Study for College Credit," and of its adaptation to the use of public high schools of the state of Colorado. Correspondence is invited concerning any matter which the bulletin has not made clear.

Address

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