

**THE CORRELATION OF
ABILITIES OF
HIGH SCHOOL
PUPILS: A DISSERTATION**

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The Correlation of Abilities of High School Pupils: A Dissertation by David Emrich Weglein

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BY
DAVID EMRICH WEGLEIN

A DISSERTATION

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PREFACE

The subject of this study was suggested several years ago by Professor George D. Strayer, of Columbia University, under whose direction the work was begun. In the preparation of this dissertation, the author received valuable suggestions, for which he expresses grateful acknowledgment to Professor Edward F. Buchner and Professor John B. Watson, of the Johns Hopkins University, and to Professor George D. Strayer, of Columbia University.

D. E. W.

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THE CORRELATION OF ABILITIES OF HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS

In recent years the subject of the correlation of abilities of individuals has been discussed with a great deal of interest. Considerable study has been given to this topic, probably because of its bearing upon the doctrine of formal discipline, over which many a severe battle has been fought. It has been felt that a close study of the correlation of mental abilities of individuals will throw considerable light upon the validity of the contention of those who in recent years have so vigorously attacked the formal discipline doctrine. The subject of the correlation of mental abilities has been given considerable attention, moreover, because of the close connection between it and the very important and practical topic of the grouping of school subjects into courses, adaptation of the elective system to the needs of individual students, etc.

In 1901, Wissler in a monograph upon "The Correlation of Mental and Physical Tests," published in the *Psychological Review*, Monograph Supplements, Vol. III, presented the following results, based upon the study of the records of collegiate students in Columbia University:

Subjects Correlated	No. of Cases Considered	Coef. of Corr.
Latin and mathematics	228	0.58
Mathematics and rhetoric	222	0.51
Latin and rhetoric	223	0.55
French and rhetoric	122	0.30
German and rhetoric	132	0.61
German and mathematics	115	0.52
Latin and French	130	0.60
Latin and German	129	0.61
Latin and Greek	121	0.75
Gymnasium and average grade	119	0.53