

# The Salemite

"Sail on Salem."

Member of Southern Inter-Collegiate Newspaper Association; Member the North Carolina Collegiate Association.

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## REGULATIONS CONCERNING ABSENCES.

Students are expected to attend regularly all exercises of the course in which they are enrolled. Attention is called to the following regulations on the subject:

1. Two unexcused tardinesses shall be counted by the instructor as one absence. It shall be in the province of the instructor to judge the merits of excuses offered at the close of the class.

2. Absences incurred at the last meeting of a course preceding or first following a holiday or recess shall be counted double.

3. Officers of instruction shall make a daily report to the registrar of absences incurred on that day. When two tardinesses are counted as one absence, they shall be reported in the same way, together with the dates on which they occurred.

4. (a) In order to make provision for temporary illness, or other occasions the student may deem important absences to the number of credit hours in the course are permitted.

(b) Absences to more than the number of credit hours in the course are penalized by a reduction of the final marks in the course. In all such cases the mark will be reduced two ranks for each absence, i. e., one absence in excess of the credit hours will reduce a grade of B plus to B minus; two absences in excess of the credit hours will reduce B plus to C.

5. A student who has been absent from a class exercise on account of prolonged illness or extreme emergency may present such reasons to the Registrar and obtain a permit to make up lost work. Then such absence will not be counted against her attendance record. Excuses for prolonged illness or extreme emergency must be presented promptly to the Registrar in writing. In the case of resident students such excuses must be signed by the House Mother, and in the case of non-residents by parent or guardian.

6. Absence from mid-year or final examinations will cause a failure to be listed as the grade for the course, except in case of illness or extreme emergency.

7. Absences incurred by late registration will be counted as unexcused unless an acceptable excuse can be presented in writing at the time of registration.

8. All debatable cases coming under the above regulations may be referred to a Faculty Committee with the President of the College acting as chairman.

9. Each student is held responsible for keeping herself fully informed concerning her attendance record. It is suggested that each student keep a record of her own tardinesses and absences. Such information can be verified at the Registrar's office during office hours.

## MERITS OF THE ABSENCE SYSTEM.

The present Absence System as inaugurated Tuesday morning, October 18, 1921, is in many ways a great improvement over previous systems. That does not mean that those systems were fruitless; for this new system is built upon the foundations laid by them. The movement, two years ago, for an allowance of absences in each course was sponsored by the students, and arranged by them with the aid of an Advisory Board of the Faculty. But like all innovations it was not faultless. Many problems arose which was difficult to solve in a just manner.

The Faculty Committee which arranged the system for this year was cognizant of these flaws and has done its best to form a system which provides for their exclusion. One of the greatest problems that has been solved is that of a penalty for the taking of more than the allowed absences, which would be applicable alike to boarders and day-pupils. This was arrived at by the reduction of academic grades, after all the most logical result of loss of academic work. Contrary to the systems of former years, a provision is made for prolonged illness. Formerly a student who was ill for a week or more was not allowed to take any more absences from the course so interrupted. Now, in case of prolonged illness, with a written excuse, the student is allowed to make up the lost work, and the absences are not counted against her attendance record which is left intact for temporary illnesses.

A duty is laid upon the student in that each one is required to keep a record of her own absences; so that the excuse of ignorance cannot be offered for an over-absence. It is felt throughout the college that, beside offering solutions to former problems, this system is most generous and fair. Each one of us has a part in the failure or success of this plan. Henceforth the success of the plan be our aim.

Freshman, coming in hurriedly after the musical had begun, "Have I missed much? What are they playing now?"

"The Ninth Symphony."  
 "Oh, goodness! Am I really as late as that?"

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