

# “Combining the Best of Textbooks and Great Books”

## Textbook (Lecture) Method

- Imparts Order and Structure
- Has Clearly Defined Objectives
- Locates Reading in One Place
- Is Proportioned to the Student

*but...*

- Lacks Value as Literature
- Does Not Motivate Ethically
- Conveys a Single Author's View
- Cannot Generate Enthusiasm

## Florilegium Method

By uniting into anthologies of a single theme the most beautiful, instructive, and historically significant excerpts of the great books, and by keying them to a concise and orderly outline, the Florilegium Method unites the benefits of the lecture and tutorial methods.

The college-bound student is thus formed in our western intellectual, moral, and literary culture, while simultaneously mastering its principal characters, events, dates, and ideas. Immoral material is eliminated, as is the need to wade through vast works that are often obscure and tedious to an inexperienced youth. Vocabulary and study aids are used to explore the meaning of difficult passages.

Textbooks serve adequately the needs of younger children, whereas the great books are proportioned to the educated adult. So the Florilegium Method takes the middle road by preparing students with necessary factual learning, while opening up to them the insight and grandeur of the classic works in history, literature, philosophy, and theology.

## Great Book (Tutorial) Method

- Exemplifies Literary Excellence
- Introduces the Great Ideas
- Edifies the Student Morally
- Grounds the Student Culturally

*but...*

- Lacks Unity and Clear Objectives
- Includes Scandalous Material
- Is Proportioned to Adults
- Requires Too Many Texts