



Record ID 000101
Donor ID 00061

Main Entry:

City University of New York. City College. Department of History.

Title:

Records, 1938—[ongoing]

Physical Description:

4 boxes; 1.8 linear feet

Scope and Contents:

General materials, including undated bylaws and incomplete set of Departmental Minutes (1960—1976), minutes and reports of various ad-hoc committees. Also material concerning controversy over use of Growth of the American Republic by Stanley Eliot Morison and Henry Steele Commager (1950). The files from Professor Nelson Prentiss Mead reflect his activity on the American Christian Committee for Refugees, Inc., the American Committee for Refugee Scholars, Writers and Artists, and the Committee for Refugee Education. Also includes material on an American History course designed for the United States Army Specialized Training Program at the City College during World War II.

Preferred Citation:

City University of New York, City College, Department of History Records, 1938—[ongoing], City University of New York, City College Library, Archives.

Historical Note:

History was included among the subjects of the initial curriculum of the Free Academy of New York (now City College) when the first class entered in 1849. Until 1852 it was one of several subjects taught under the rubric of History and Belles Lettres. In that year English Language and Literature were formed into a separate vision and History remained with Rhetoric and

Composition. In 1883 History was given a distinctive identity with the appointment of Henry Phelps Johnston as Professor. For nearly forty years a single professor had been able to handle all history instruction, but from the 1880's, and especially after 1900, the personnel increased. Within the discipline scholars were beginning to concentrate in various fields, and instructors with varied specializations were appointed.

The early courses relied heavily on textbooks, with more diversified readings added after 1900. The study of American history was introduced in 1884 and the elective system about 1906. When he retired in 1916, Professor Johnston was the last member of the old faculty as originally constituted (twelve to fourteen professors) and the embryonic Departmental structure of the college took solid form in 1921. Nelson Prentiss Mead became the first chair, a post he held until 1949 (interrupted only by his service as Acting President from 1938 to early 1941).

Under the fifteen year chairmanship of Joseph Wisan the Department added courses in Near and Far Eastern History to its European and American sequences, and courses in African history appeared in the curriculum in the late 1960's. By the mid 1990's the Department offered nearly seventy-five courses, including sequences in Ancient and Medieval History, American History, Asian, African and Latin American History, Science and Technology, Comparative History and "Topics" such as the Enlightenment, the Third Reich and Women in World History. In contrast, at the time Professor Mead became the first Chair, the Department offered about twenty-five courses, almost all dealing with the Americas and Europe. (For an account of the teaching of history at the College to 1934 see Nathan Brown, The Growth and Development of the Department of History at the College of the City of New York, 1847—1934, M.S.E. Thesis, June 1935 in the School of Education collection in 13.1—2.)

In the 1960's a series of retirements led to a sizeable group of new faculty and a turn away from the tightly controlled content of many courses. In 1969 the College instituted a major curriculum revision which abolished most of the required courses and most prerequisites to advanced courses. Disagreement over the merits of this approach among members of the department was exacerbated by the events of April—May 1969 which led to the acceleration of the "Open Admissions" policy implemented in September of 1970. The Department became divided by factions which labeled each other "radical" and "reactionary" and a team of outside evaluators recommended that a Chair be brought from outside—leading to the appointment of Professor Herbert Gutman from the University of Rochester in the Fall of 1972. Investigation of the problems in the Department by various bodies, including the Faculty Senate, took place between 1972 and 1974. The Department was the subject of stories in The New York Times in 1974. (See Barbara Gutfreund Arfa, "History Department Controversy," City College Alumnus 70 (April 1975), 3ff.)

The Department began offering work leading to the M.A. degree in 1962, although members of the Department had been teaching in the masters programs in International Relations and New York Area Studies since (See Board of Higher Education, Minutes, June 18, 1951, p. 310; January 22, 1962, pp. 19—22)

The Department is a major participant in the two semester Core Course "World Civilizations" developed in the mid 1980's.

Finding Aid:

Inventory available in reading room; folder level control.

Subjects:

Commager, Henry Steele, 1902— Growth of the American Republic. 1950
Morison, Samuel Eliot, 1887—1976 Growth of the American Republic. 1950
American Christian Committee for Refugees.
American Committee for Refugee Scholars, Writers and Artists.
City University of New York. City College. Department of History.
Committee for Refugee Education.
City University of New York. City College. Open Admissions.

Added Entries:

Mead, Nelson Prentiss, 1878—
American Christian Committee for Refugees.
American Committee for Refugee Scholars, Writers and Artist.
Army Specialized Training Program (U.S.)
City University of New York. City College. Alumni Association.
Committee for Refugee Education.
World War, 1939—1945. War Work. Schools.

Chairs of the Department of History

Professor of History and Belle Lettres:

Theodore Irving	1848—1852
Charles Edward Anthon	1853—1883

Professor of History

Henry Phelps Johnston	1883—1916
Henry Phelps Johnston (Emeritus)	1916—1921

Chairs of the Department of History

Nelson Prentiss Mead (Class of 1899)	1921—1938
Holland Thompson (Acting)	1921—1938
J. (Jacob) Salwyn Schapiro (Class of 1904; Acting)	1938—1941
Nelson Prentiss Mead (Class of 1899)	1941—1949
Joseph E. Wisan (Class of 1922)	1949—1965
Arthur E. Tiedemann	1965—1969
Howard Adelson	1969—1972
Herbert Gutman	1972—1975
Arthur E. Tiedemann	1975—1978
Irwin H. Yellowitz	1978—1981
Joel H. Wiener	1981—1984
James F. Watts	1984—1990
Radmila Milentijevic	1990—1992
James Watts	1992—1996

Department of History Inventory

General and about.	Box 1
By—laws. n.d.	Box 1
Committees	
Ad-Hoc Committees. [various] 1970's.	Box
Committee on a nine-hour teaching load. C. 1967.	Box 1
Committee on Graduate Instruction. Report. 1938./1939.	Box 1
Educational Policy Committee. 1974—1976.	Box 1
Long Range Goals Committee. 1975—1976.	Box 1
Officers and Committees. 1968—1969.	
Open Admissions Committee. 1970—1971.	Box 1
Committee on History in General Education. Report. 1952.	Box 3
Departmental Correspondence [relating to dispute, 1970—1974]	Box 3
Minutes. 1960—1976. [incomplete: 1960—1965; 1970—1976] [Minutes 1977—1996 may be found in the Irwin Yellowitz collection shelved in the Memorabilia Section, Box 4]	Box 2
Miscellaneous	
Activities of faculty and staff; Awards to graduate majoring in history. 1970's	Box 1
Textbook dispute over us of <u>Growth of the American Republic</u> by Morison and Commager. 1950. [Includes statement by Teachers of American History, Department of History]	Box 1
Publications:	
Department of History. <u>Selected Readings in</u>	

History of Civilization. 1957.
Department of History. Syllabus of Contemporary
European History. Rev. ed., 1946. Box 3
J. Salwyn Schapiro. History 144: a list of references. Box 3

Files Transferred to Department of History by Professor
Nelson P. Mead at his Retirement in 1949

Alumni Association

NPM correspondence with alumni while
President of the AA and Chair of the
Alumni Fund Committee. 1943—1948. Box 4

Groups Assisting Refugees

American Christian Committee for Refugees., Inc. 1946. Box 4
American Committee for Refugee Scholars, Writers and Artists.
1945—1946.
Committee for Refugee Education. 1940—1943.

United States Army Specialized Training Program

Material on American History course designed for use in ASTP.

Civilian Defense Council (at City College)

Vouchers, bills, etc. 1942. Box 4

Record ID 000269
Accession No. 1997—14

Main Entry:

Yellowitz, Irwin.

Title:

Papers, 1957—1996; bulk 1966—1996.

Physical Description:

10 boxes

4.2 linear feet

Organization and Arrangement:

Papers organized into five series: I. Department of History Materials. II. City College Committees, etc. III. City University of New York Materials. IV. Professional Staff Congress/City University of New York (PSC) Materials. V. Activities/Organizations Outside of CCNY and CUNY.

Preferred Citation

Irwin Yellowitz Papers, City College of the City University of New York Archives and Special Collections.

Biographical Note:

Irwin Yellowitz, a 1954 graduate of the City College took his doctorate in history at Brown University (1961) and joined the Department of History of his alma mater in 1962. His field of specialization is United States labor history. He rose through the ranks to Professor and served as Chair from 1978 to 1981. Professor Yellowitz was fully engaged in the life of his Department and of the College. In addition to many departmental responsibilities, he supervised honors and graduate students and served on several important College committees. He also served for many years as Chair of the City College Chapter of the Professional Staff Congress/City University of New York (PSC/CUNY). He retired in 1996.

Scope and Contents:

The Yellowitz papers primarily document his activities in the Department of History and the City College community; due to his wide engagement with the Department and the College, they also document the chief concerns of the Department and several important College matters for the period of 1962—1996. The Department of History files include annual reports, correspondence, minutes of departmental meetings, curriculum matters and material on conferences and public programs. Also material on students supervised by Professor Yellowitz in graduate and independent study programs as well as responses by students about his teaching from the Course and Teaching Evaluation surveys. Also substantial material documenting the Faculty Senate investigation of the Department of History (1972—1975), the work of the Select Committee on Mission and Reorganization of the College (1982) and the development of the new core curriculum by the Select Task Force on the General Education of City College Students (“Green Ribbon” Committee) from 1983 to 1985.

Finding Aid Note:

Inventory available in repository; folder level control.

Subjects:

City University of New York. City College. Department of History.

City University of New York. City College. Curricula.

Universities and colleges. New York (N.Y.). Curricula.

College teachers, Rating of.

Student evaluation of teachers. New York (N.Y.).

Class of 1954.

Green Ribbon Committee.

Added Entires:

City University of New York. City College. Department of History.

City University of New York. City College. Faculty Senate.

City University of New York. City College. Select Task Force on General Education for
City College Students.

Professional Staff Congress/ City University of New York.

Location:

City College of the City University of New York, Archives and Special Collections, North Academic Center, New York, NY 10031.

Inventory of the Irwin Yellowitz Papers

Memorabilia/Yellowitz

Department of History Materials

Annual Reports: 1977—1984

1977—1978

1978—1979

May 1981

May 1982

Spring 1984

Box 5

Curricular Matters: 1965—1983

History I and II. C. 1957—1960.

Box 5

History I. 1964—1967.

Box 5

History examinations. 1963—1968.

Box 2

Curriculum issues. 1965—1967.

Box 2

Curriculum issues. 1974—1975. [I.Y. Deputy Chair]

Box 2

Ancient/European History to 1500. Teaching Notes. n.d.

Box 9

Bridge courses. 1984.

Box 5

Course offerings. 1974—1978; Fall 1993.

Box 5

Europe 1900 to present. Teaching materials. n.d.

Box 10

School of Engineering. Electives recommended for students in SOE. 1983.

Box 2

United States Society 101. [Core Course]

Syllabi for USS 101, History 106 and History 107.

Box 5

USS. 1988. [contains material from 1960s]

Box 3

USS 101. Discussion meeting. [Includes material from 1960s on other courses] 1988.

Box 10

Committees: 1966—1985

Committee of American Historians. 1983.

Box 5

Committee on Fellows. Report. 1966.

Box 7

Graduate Committee on History. 1967—1971	Box 1
Prize Committee.	
1981—1982.	Box 4
1983—1984.	Box 4
1982—1985.	Box 4
Conferences and Public Programs: 1978—1984	
Conference on Early Civilizations in a Global Perspective.	
1978 [sponsored by the Division of Social Science]	Box 2
Conference on Immigration to America. 1983. [Globus conference]	Box 1
Lectures. 1981—1982.	Box 2
Future of New York in a World Economy.	
Rosenburg—Humphrey Program in Public Affairs.	
1984. [with Dept. of Political Science]	Box 7
Correspondence: 1967—1996	
Correspondence received. 1965—1971.	Box 2
Correspondence. 1972—1979.	Box 2
Correspondence. 1972—1980.	Box 4
Correspondence. 1996—1996.	Box 10
Correspondence with Dean Charles Baskerville re Evening Session. May 31, 1979.	Box 2
Correspondence with Prof. Joseph Ellis. 1975/1976.	Box 2
Correspondence with Herbert Gutman. [Incoming Chair]. 1972.	Box 4
Correspondence. 1965—1996.	Box 2
Correspondence re P. Baumel, Dean for Academic Standards. 1986.	Box 3
Course and Teacher Evaluations of Courses Taught by I.Y. 1961—1993.	
[The Course and Teacher Evaluation Survey is administered by the Office of Institutional Research]	
1961: History 1 [given at Baruch College while a graduate student]	Box 10
1965—1968:	
History 4, 5, 47, 1291, 1702.	Box 10
Fall 1969—Spring 1972. History 6, 45, 47.	Box 10
Fall 1973.	Box 10
1978. History 6, 45, 106, 364.	Box 10
1982—1993. History 106, 124, 125, 364.	Box 10
Enrollment: 1964—1997	
Enrollments in History courses and class size. 1964—1965.	Box 2

Enrollments.... 1965—1997. Box 7

Meetings and Minutes: 1977—1995

Minutes of Departmental Meetings [Incomplete]:
 1977—1979. Box 4
 1981—1987 Box 4
 1987—1991 Box 4
 1994—1995 Box 4
Election Meeting. May 1981. Box 4

M.A. Program in History: 1960—1989:

B.A./M.A. Program. 1988. Box 5
M.A. Program in History. 1960—1971.
 [Includes Report of President Buell Gallagher's
 Task Force on Graduate Instruction and
 Research. November 1960] Box 1
M.A. History Comprehensive Examination. 1989. Box 8
M.A. and Honors Theses List. 1954—19

Students Supervised by I.Y. in

Honors/M.A. Programs, etc.: 1971—1993:

Allwood, Adolph. Reading Course on Immigration. 1971. Box 3
Brooks, Alexandra. M.A. Thesis. 1981. Box 3
Capobianco, Joseph A. Outline for paper. n.d. Box 3
Carew, Ann-Marie. Honors. 1981—1982. Box 3
Mack, William. Independent Study. 1986. Box 8
Mahony, Devin. Honors. 1991. Box 8
Mountainbear, Bob. M.A. Thesis. 1991. Box 8
Oyinola, M. M.A. Thesis. 1993.
Valdes, Mauricio. History 124. 1991. Box 10
Notes for student M.A. project. n.d. Box 8

Other History Department Matters: 1963—1984:

City College History Teachers Institute. 1984.
College Planning Form. History Department Response. 1994. Box 7
Day Student Senate. History Department Day. 1978. Box 6
History Society. 1979. Box 7
Honors Program.
 1970. Box 7
 1981. Box 4
Kaplan, Lawrence J. Observation. 1981. Box 7
Mentor Program. n.d. Box 4
Mission Review [Sponsored by Office of the Provost;
 I.Y. response to report on Dept. of History] Box 4
National Endowment for the Humanities.
 Dept. Proposal for Institute for

the Study of the Peoples of New City. Prof. J. Watts. 1979. [not funded]	Box 10
Promotions Procedures. 1979	Box 8
Publications and Activities. 1963—1971.	Box 7
Release Time and Staffing. 1984.	Box 7
Retrenchment. 1975/1976.	Box 9
Shandong University. Exchange Program. 1984.	Box 2
Student Survey Questionnaire [regarding courses to be offered] 1980.	Box 7
Tutorial Program. 1973.	Box 7
Workload and Seniority List. 1983.	Box 6

**See also: Faculty Senate Investigation of
Department of History** under City College
Committee, etc., below.

City College Committees, etc.: 1971—1989:

[I.Y. served on these bodies]	
Select Task Force on General Education for City College Students [the “Green Ribbon” Committee on the new “Core Curriculum”]. Hearings. 1983.	Box 6
Faculty responses to questionnaire about purpose and intent of the General Education core. Spring 1983.	Box 6
Reports. [Includes final report]. 1983—1984.	Box 6
Reports, memos, etc. 1983—1984. [Includes reports: A liberal arts education in the 1980s (April 25, 1983) and CCNY Lilly Workshop Report (Spring 1983).	Box 1
Faculty Council action. 1984—1985.	Box 6
Writing Across the Curriculum. 1982—1986.	Box 9
Faculty Senate Investigation of the History Department, 1972—1975 (see also Faculty Senate record group): General materials. 1972—1975.	Box 7
Report of the Committee of Inquiry into the Department of History... submitted to the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate. Prof. Donald Koster, Adelphi University, Chair. Nov. 20, 1974.	Box 7
Visiting Committee...on the History Department. Carl Schorske, Chair. Report. May 18, 1971. [this report was commissioned by the President and the Provost]	Box 7

**For History Department Core Courses
see History Department: Curriculum**

Academic Goals and Mission of the College: Retreat. [held in conjunction with report below] 1974	Box 3
Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Development Plan for City College, Chair F. Binder. [includes report Reflections on Academic Development] 1973.	Box 3
Ad Hoc Committee on History of City College. [includes proposed charter for the Archives] 1984—1985	Box 2
Ad Hoc Committee on the Calendar. 1981.	Box 3
Campus High School (A. Philip Randolph). 1979.	Box 3
College of Liberal Arts and Science. Committee on the Future of CLAS. Chair: John Landolfi. Report. 1978.	Box 2
High School visits. 1972.	Box 5
Jewish Faculty Association. 1974.	Box 7
Liberal Arts Pre-Professional (LAPP) Program. Reports: 1978, 1979.	Box 7
Library. Ad Hoc Committee on Library Automation [online public access catalog] 1988—1989.	Box 8
Friends of the Library. 1985—1987.	Box 7
Library collection. 1976.	Box 8
Library collection development questionnaire. 1984.	Box 8
Office of the Provost. Search Committee for Chair of Department of History. 1971.	Box 7
Retrenchment. 1975/76.	Box 7
Select Committee on Mission and Organization of the College. Report and working papers. 1982. [Created by President Harleston]	Box 8
Students for Educational Rights (SER). President Harleston's Agreement with the Faculty Senate. 1989.	Box 5

**See also Office of the Vice-President
for Finance and Management. Search
Committee for Vice-President...1993—1994.**

City University of New York: 1972—1994:

Chancellor's Committee on Status of Women. Correspondence. 1972.	Box 2
CUNY History Project. 1979.	Box 2
CUNY B.A. Program: University Committee for CUNY B.A. 1983—1984. Williams, Jonathan. [CUNY B.A. Student who	Box 2

had some work supervised by I.Y.] 1982—1984. Box 10

Professional Staff Congress/CUNY

[I.Y. was CCNY Chapter head]

Asbestos concerns at City College. 1988. Box 3

Chancellor's Committee on Base Level Equity.

Letter by I.Y. 1994. Box 3

Yoon, Young. PSC intern. 1991 {Report on his work} Box 9

Activites/Organizations Outside of CCNY and CUNY: 1977—1990:

Academic Council for Kibbutz Studies. 1981—1984. Box 7

Committee for Equality in Education. [Leo

Benjamin]. 1977—1989. [This committee was concerned with restoring Free Tuition but had no official status within CUNY]

Box 3

New York Council for the Humanities. Speakers in the Humanities. I.Y. participated and was a listed speaker. c. 1984

Box 9

University of the State of New York. Regents College Examination. 1990. [I.Y. an Evaluator]

Box 8

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Box
1—4

For Faculty Senate Investigation into History Department 1972—1975
See: inventory of FACULTY SENATE

