THE COLLEGE

Its History, Buildings and Organization

HISTORY—Brooklyn College was founded in 1930 as the culmination of a long effort on the part of civic leaders in the community to secure adequate provision for college education within the bounds of the Borough of Brooklyn. Its beginnings, however, date from the year 1926, when, under authorization of the Board of Higher Education, The College of the City of New York established a Brooklyn Collegiate Center for men and Hunter College of The City of New York a branch for women. With the institution of the new college in the Spring of 1930 the organizations which originally were parts of The College of the City of New York and of Hunter College, respectively, were separated from their parent institutions and merged into an independent new unit in the municipal college system, under the name of Brooklyn College. The first President was Dr. William A. Boylan, who served until his retirement on September 19, 1938. On June 8, 1939, the Board of Higher Education approved the appointment of Professor Harry D. Gideon as his successor.

In 1929 the name “The College of the City of New York,” formerly confined to the college for men in the Borough of Manhattan, became the legal corporation title of the entire group of municipal colleges as it then existed. At present the collegiate system described by the title “THE COLLEGE OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK” comprises four independent and coordinate units, all under the jurisdiction of the Board of Higher Education: The City College, Hunter College, the College of the City of New York, Brooklyn College, and Queens College.

BUILDINGS—Temporary quarters were located in various buildings in the Borough Hall section.

Increasingly cramped conditions and difficulties inherent in occupancy of several buildings in a congested business district lent impetus to the attempts to secure a more appropriate site and adequate buildings. Through the concerted efforts of many organizations and of the officials of the City Administration, realization of an old dream was effected. A 42 acre tract of land, at Avenue H and Bedford Avenue, was acquired by the City in the summer of 1933. With the aid of an appropriation secured by the City Administration from the Federal Government it was possible to commence the work of construction. Mr. Randolph Evans, architect, in association with the firm of architects, Corbett, Harrison and MacMurray, drew the plans. Ground was broken on October 2, 1935. Through 1936 the work progressed, and on October 28, 1936, President Roosevelt laid the cornerstone of the Gymnasium building. The first group of five buildings was ready for occupancy in the fall of 1937 and on October 18, formal opening exercises were held on the campus.
ORGANIZATION—Brooklyn College is a College of Liberal Arts and Science, with both day and evening sessions. The College offers instruction to both men and women students. Undergraduate instruction is offered also in the Summer Session and in the afternoon Courses for Teachers. Graduate courses leading to the degree of Master of Arts are offered in the Division of Graduate Studies.

ACCREDITATION—Brooklyn College is accredited by the following accrediting agencies:

I. The New York State Department of Education.
II. The Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.
III. The Association of American Universities.

ADMISSION—A formal application giving a complete transcript of the student’s secondary school record, and certified by the Principal of the secondary school, must be submitted to the College not later than December 1st for admission in February, or July 15th for admission in September.

All candidates for admission are required to be citizens and actual, legal, and bona fide residents of the City of New York. In order to be considered a resident the applicant must live in the city with his parents or with a guardian duly appointed by law. The applications of those who cannot fulfill these requirements will not be considered.

FEES—It is provided by law that: “The Board (of Higher Education) shall furnish the benefits of collegiate education gratuitously to citizens who are actual residents of the city and who are qualified for admission to any regular undergraduate course of study leading to a baccalaureate degree and to any course of study in any preparatory, training or model school connected with any institution under their control; and they may furnish gratuitously or otherwise for male and female students, actual residents or employees of said city and non-matriculated students, additional technical, professional, and special courses of study and other educational advantages. In all courses and courses of study they may, in their discretion, require students to pay library, laboratory, locker and breakage fees, and meet the cost of books and consumable supplies.”

STUDENT GOVERNMENT—Supervision of student activities and control of interclass functions are in the hands of Student Councils which are composed of representatives chosen by the students. Regular meetings are held at which questions concerning the welfare of students and of the College are discussed.

REQUIREMENTS FOR DEGREES—The College offers curricula leading respectively to the degrees of Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science in Education, and Master of Arts. Descriptions of the requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Education and for the degree of Master of Arts are published in a separate bulletin issued by the Division of Graduate Studies and Courses for Teachers.

The Curriculum leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts includes three courses of study. They are hereafter referred to as the Arts Course, the Science Course, and the Social Science Course. The aims of these courses are the same: namely, to provide a broad foundation for a liberal education, and to give the student some preparation for that work which will fit him for a particular function in the community. Each course consists of four groups of subjects amounting to 128 credits, as follows:

I. Subjects prescribed for all students................. 53-67 credits

This group includes an introductory course in each of the main branches of knowledge, designed to orient the student in the various fields and to stimulate him in the further pursuit of knowledge.

II. Additional subjects prescribed for students in respective courses ........................................6-15 credits

This group includes the necessary preliminary courses for advanced work in a chosen field.

III. Subjects to be elected to meet the concentration require- ment in a chosen field.......................... 24 credits

This group includes advanced courses designed to develop the student’s special aptitudes and to insure a substantial amount of intensive work on the part of the student.

IV. Additional subjects to be elected to complete the remainder of the required 128 credits........................ 22-39 credits

The purpose of this group is to permit the further pursuit of advanced work and to stimulate interest in diverse fields of knowledge.
Brooklyn College is located at Bedford Avenue and Avenue H. It extends to Nostrand Avenue on the east and to Ocean Avenue on the west.

The most convenient subway is the IRT Flatbush Avenue Line to the Nostrand Avenue terminus. The BMT Brighton Beach Line is approximately a half mile to the west.

Bus route No. 6 passes the Avenue J station of the Brighton Line and the College. The Nostrand, Flatbush and Ocean Avenue trolleys also pass the grounds from northerly and southerly directions.

The College is near the geographical center of the borough, being about midway between the Borough Hall section and Floyd Bennett flying field or Sheepshead Bay. By automobile it is about two miles from Prospect Park along Ocean Avenue.

<table>
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<th>Semester</th>
<th>Day Session</th>
<th>Evening Session</th>
<th>Teacher Courses</th>
<th>Graduate School</th>
<th>Summer Session</th>
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<td>Summer, 1938-9</td>
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VIEW OF QUADRANGLE

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THE EPHEBIC OATH

TAKEN BY STUDENTS ON GRADUATION

We, Men and Women, graduated by Brooklyn College, do this day, after the manner of the Athenian youths of old about to enter public life, take this oath of devotion to the City of New York: We will never bring disgrace to our city by any act of dishonesty or cowardice, nor ever desert our suffering comrades in the ranks; we will fight for the ideals and sacred things of the city, both alone and with many; we will revere and obey the city's laws and do our best to incite a like respect and reverence in those about us who are prone to annul them and set them at naught; we will strive unceasingly to quicken the public's sense of civic duty; and thus, in all these ways, we will strive to transmit this city not only not less but greater, better and more beautiful than it was transmitted to us.

OFFICERS OF ADMINISTRATION

HARRY D. GIDEONSE, President

MARIO E. COSENZA, Academic Dean

RALPH P. BRIDGMAN, Dean of Students  ADELE BILDERSEE, Dean of Women

JAMES W. PARK, Director of the Evening Session

OSCAR W. IRVIN, Director of the Summer Session

JOSEPH GEORGE COHEN, Director of the Division of Graduate Studies.

SAMUEL N. KAGEN, Registrar.  ASA DON DICKINSON, Librarian.

ROBERT J. FEE, Curator and Auditor.  SAMUEL KATZ, Bursar.

ARTHUR J. HILLARY, Custodian Engineer.