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RECORDS OF THE BROOKLYN COLLEGE
MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

Accession # 2015-009

Dates 1926-1976
Extent 4. Boxes, 2.25 Cubic feet
Creator Brooklyn College’s Mathematics Department
Access/Use Papers are open for research.
Materials can be accessed at Brooklyn College Archives & Special Collections, Main Floor, 2900 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11210
Languages English
Finding Aid The guide is available in-house and online
Acquisition/Appraisal Acquired from the Department of Math
Description Control Finding aid content adheres to the one prescribed by Describing Archives: A Content Standard.
**Preferred Citation**  
Item, folder title, box number, Records of Mathematics Department, Brooklyn College Archives & Special Collections, Brooklyn College Library

**Subject Heading**  
Brooklyn College – Mathematics

**Scope and Content**

This collection consists largely of handwritten grade books from Brooklyn College’s earliest years. Much of it also relates to the Math Department’s extracurricular activities such as contests. There are only two Subgroups in the collection: Notebooks: Records of Classes in Mathematics 1926 – 1976, and Department of Mathematics General Information

**Series Outline**

**SubGroup I – Notebooks: Records of Classes in Mathematics 1926 - 1976**
- Series 1: Day Session- Women’s Division: Fa’31 – Sp’38
- Series 2: Day Session- Men’s Division: Fa’30 – Fa’36
- Series 3: Evening Sessions: Fa’30 - Sp’38
- Series 4: Other Sessions/Programs: Fa’26 – Su’37
- Series 5: Professor’s Personal Gradebooks/files: 1929 - 1976

**SubGroup II – Department of Mathematics General Information**
- Series 1: Books & Pamphlets
- Series 2: General Information
Series Descriptions

Sub-Group I: Notebooks: Records of Classes in Mathematics 3 boxes /1.5 cubic feet. 
Arrangement by session then year.

This subgroup consists of notebooks from 1926 - 1976. These notebooks are filled with 
handwritten records of students, their grades, test scores, and on some pages, notes regarding the 
student and makeup exams/assignments. This subgroup is divided into the different divisions that 
met at different times of day.

-Series 1: Day Session- Women’s Division: Fa’31 – Sp’38

In this series you will find handwritten gradebooks pertaining to the Women’s division. This 
division started out at Hunter College of the City of New York, located in the Willoughby 
Building at Willoughby and Bridge Streets. In 1927, it vacated this building and obtained several 
floors in the Chamber of Commerce building at 66 Court Street. Additional space was procured 
in the Fall of 1930 at 159-165 Joralemon Street. In the late 30’s/early 40’s, said division was 
eventually streamlined with the men’s division.

-Series 2: Day Session- Men’s Division: Fa’30 – Fa’36

The men’s division began in The City College (and by the end of the 30s was being streamlined 
and combined with the women’s division here at Brooklyn college. These particular gradebooks 
are from the period of time prior to the divisions merging.

-Series 3: Evening Sessions: Fa’30 - Sp’38

This series contains notebooks from the evening sessions at Brooklyn College. These notebooks 
are handwritten and contain student names, grades, and class schedules.

-Series 4: Other Sessions/Programs: Fa’26 – Su’37

In addition to day and evening sessions, and men’s and women’s divisions, there were also 
summer sessions, and records from City College. Some of these handwritten notebooks can be 
found within this series.

-Series 5: Professor’s Personal Gradebooks/files: 1929 – 1976

While most of the gradebooks within the majority of Sub-Group I do not contain the names of 
the teachers, this particular series highlights those notebooks that did. Organized alphabetically 
by the instructors of the classes, you will find interesting notes attributed to each teacher. 
Famous mathematician has an additional folder of information pertaining to his time here at 
Brooklyn College.
SubGroup II- Department of Mathematics General Information 1 box/.5 cubic feet.

This sub-group consists of scrap books, workbooks, and other items such as photographs, newspaper clippings and correspondence.

-Series 1: Books & Pamphlets

The books and pamphlets contained within this series are that of bulletins, scrap books, instructional math books, and administrative course booklets. One scrap book contains Math Mirror Bulletins from 1934-1937. Another scrap book contains newspaper clippings from as early as 1931 to as late as 1944. Said articles regarding Math Contest winners, letters of congratulations both typed and hand written, articles about City College students training for war, and those about women in mathematics can be found in this particular scrap book. The instructional math booklets include The Fundamentals of Mathematics Volume I from 1940 and The Smith’s Regents Review Books from 1904-1927. The administrative books contain course announcements from 1932 – 1968.

-Series 2: General Information

Within this series, you will find correspondence, meeting minutes, information on memorials, newspaper clippings, photographs, invitations, stationary and more. The correspondence dates from 1936 to 1975 and includes but is not limited to, letters of congratulations and condolences. The Math Department meeting minutes span over the course of a decade from 1962 until 1972 and have notes of announcements, committee members present or absent and other pertinent departmental information going on during that span of time. The folder for memorials and tributes contains information on specific deceased Math department faculty such as Carl B. Boyer, a professor and historian, and Lester L. Gavurin, math department chairperson. Newspaper clippings consist mostly of math competitions won by Brooklyn College students and professors that made headlines at one point or another. Departmental photographs, reports, and envelopes from when Brooklyn College was located at 57 Willoughby Street can be found in this collection’s final series as well.
Subgroup I: Notebooks- Records of Classes in Mathematics 1926 - 1976
  Series 1: Day Session- Women’s Division Fa’31 – Sp’38

Box 1
Folder 1: Day Session- Women’s Division
Folder 2: Day Session- Women’s Division
Folder 3: Day Session- Women’s Division

Subgroup I: Notebooks- Records of Classes in Mathematics 1926 - 1976
  Series 2: Day Session- Men’s Division Fa’30 – Fa’36

Box 1
Folder 4: Day Session- Men’s Division
Folder 5: Day Session- Men’s Division

Subgroup I: Notebooks- Records of Classes in Mathematics 1926 - 1976
  Series 3: Evening Sessions: Fa’30 – Sp’38

Box 2
Folder 1: Evening Session: Fa’30-Fa’32
Folder 2: Evening Session: Sp’33 – Fa’33
Folder 3: Evening Session: Sp’34 – Fa’34
Folder 4: Evening Session: Sp’35 – Fa’35
Folder 5: Evening Session: Sp’36 – Sp’37
Folder 6: Evening Session: Sp’38

Subgroup I: Notebooks- Records of Classes in Mathematics
  Series 4: Other Sessions/Programs

Box 2
Folder 7: Brooklyn Center (City College) Fa’26 – Sp’30
Folder 8: Summer Session: Su’33 – Su’37
Container Listing (continued)

Subgroup I: Notebooks- Records of Classes in Mathematics
Series 5: Professor’s Personal Gradebooks/files

Box 3
Folder 1: Gradebooks: Carl B. Boyer 1933 - 1976
Folder 2: Carl B. Boyer Administrative Information
Folder 3: Gradebooks- Henry Hollis Lansford 1929 – 1936
Folder 4: Gradebooks- W. Prenowitz 1934 – 1938
Folder 5: Gradebooks-James Singer 1936 - 1947
Folder 7: Gradebooks: Unknown Professor 1940 - 1941

Subgroup II: Department of Mathematics General Information
Series 1: Books & Pamphlets

Box 4

Box 5
Folder 1: Scrapbook: Math Mirror Bulletins 1934 - 1937
Folder 2: Scrapbook: Miscellaneous
Folder 3: Instructional Math Booklets
Folder 4: Administrative Course Booklets

Subgroup II: Department of Mathematics General Information
Series 2: General Information

Box 5
Folder 5: Correspondence
Folder 6: Meeting Minutes 1962 – 1968
Folder 7: Meeting Minutes 1969 – 1972
Folder 8: Memorials and Tributes
Folder 9: Newspaper Clippings
Folder 10: Photographs
Folder 11: Report on Origins of Mathematics
Folder 12: Miscellaneous