

# A Finding Aid to the Rhea Hirsch Papers

# **Manuscript Collection No. 82**

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## **Collection Summary**

**Title** Rhea Hirsch Papers

**Dates** 1948-1960 **Collection Number** MS-82

Repository The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

Hirsch, Rhea, 1878-1970 Creator

Extent 0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

Language of the Material English

#### **Administrative Information**

#### **Biographical Sketch**

Rhea Hirsch was born in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1878. Hirsch came under the influence of Rabbi Isaac Mayer Wise and the Reform Judaism movement and was inspired to attend Hebrew Union College. She was one of the college's first students to receive a teacher's certificate.

After the loss of her husband in New York, she came to Los Angeles in 1940. When the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC) founded its College of Jewish Studies at the Wilshire Temple in 1947 as the forerunner to the present Rhea Hirsch School of Education, Hirsch enrolled the first semester and continued to be a student each year for the remainder of her life.

In the ensuing years she attended classes regularly, taking over one hundred-twenty units of Jewish studies concerning every course offered by the school. Her zeal and scholarship brought her citations both from the UAHC College of Jewish Studies and the School of Education which was named in her honor in 1969.

Rhea Hirsch had two children, Kingdon Hirsch and Rebel Dunsay. She died in Los Angeles, California in 1970.

#### **Scope and Content**

The Rhea Hirsch Papers contain the notes taken by Rhea Hirsch while a student at the Union of American Hebrew Congregations School of Jewish Studies in Los Angeles, California. Also included is a curriculum guide written in 1951 by the Bureau of Jewish Education and the Los Angeles Jewish Community Center. This guide gives insight into the early years of the School of Jewish Studies, including the courses they would offer, the philosophies behind the classes, the exams, and coursework.

**Arrangement** Class notes are arranged chronologically.

**Terms of Access** The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

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**Preferred Citation** 

Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Rhea Hirsch Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-82. Rhea Hirsch Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

**Provenance** Received from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Los Angeles, Calif., 1978.

**Processing Information** Processed by Christine A. Crandall, May 2002.

#### **Index Terms**

Subjects Jewish college students / Jews -- California -- Los Angeles / Judaism -- Study and teaching / Reform

ludaism

**Personal Names** Hirsch, Rhea

### **Series A. General, 1948-1966**

#### **Box and Folder Listing**

Box 1.	Folder 1.	Union o	f American	Hebrew	Congregations.	College of	Jewish S	Studies.	Class notes,	1948-1949	
Box 1.	Folder 2.	Union o	f American	Hebrew	Congregations.	College of	Jewish 9	Studies.	Class notes,	1948	
Box 1.	Folder 3.	Union o	f American	Hebrew	Congregations.	College of	Jewish 9	Studies.	Class notes,	1950-1951	
Box 1.	Folder 4.	Union o	f American	Hebrew	Congregations.	College of	Jewish S	Studies.	Class notes,	1951-1954	
Box 1.	Folder 5.	Union o	f American	Hebrew	Congregations.	College of	Jewish S	Studies.	Class notes,	1956-1957	
Box 1.	Folder 6.	Union o	f American	Hebrew	Congregations.	College of	Jewish 9	Studies.	Class notes,	1957-1958	

Box 1. Folder 7. Union of American Hebrew Congregations. College of Jewish Studies. Class notes, 1960-1962

Box 1. Folder 8. Union of American Hebrew Congregations. College of Jewish Studies. Class notes, 1963-1966

Box 1. Folder 9. What Constitutes a Basic Jewish Education? What are the Common Elements in Such an Education?. Bureau of Jewish Education and Los Angeles Jewish Community Council, 1951 May