



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE  
**AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES**

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**A Finding Aid to the  
Stanley Dreyfus Papers**

**Manuscript Collection No. 819**



## Collection Summary

<b>Title</b>	Stanley Dreyfus Papers
<b>Dates</b>	1935-2008 (bulk: 1960-2001)
<b>Collection Number</b>	MS-819
<b>Repository</b>	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
<b>Creator</b>	Dreyfus, A. Stanley, 1921
<b>Extent</b>	22.4 linear feet (22 record cartons, 1 Hollinger box)
<b>Language of the Material</b>	English and Hebrew

## Administrative Information

### Biographical Sketch

Alfred Stanley Dreyfus was born in Youngstown, Ohio in 1921. He received a B.A. with high honors in Classics from the University of Cincinnati, and received his Bachelor of Hebrew Letters in 1942, followed by a Master of Hebrew Letters and ordination in 1946 from Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati. Following ordination, he held the Heinsheimer Fellowship at Hebrew Union College, where he taught liturgy and served as Director of the College Reference Department. From 1948 to 1950, he was Counselor to the Interfaith Program, working with graduate Christian clergymen who were studying at Hebrew Union College to become teachers of Hebrew and related subjects in their seminaries. In 1951, he received a Ph.D. in Jewish Theology from Hebrew Union College. He was a Visiting Lecturer in Judaism at the Indiana School of Religion in Bloomington (1951-1956) and lectured on Judaism to medical and nursing students at the University of Texas Medical Center in Galveston. HUC-JIR honored Dreyfus with an honorary Doctor of Divinity in 1971.

Dreyfus served as the Director of Rabbinic Placement of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (1980-1991) and taught liturgy and commentaries at the New York campus of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion for over four decades.

His long and distinguished career encompassed spiritual leadership as visiting minister of the West London Synagogue in England (summer 1949), and rabbi of Congregation Beth El in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania and Congregation B'nai Israel in East Liverpool, Ohio (1950-1951), United Hebrew Congregation in Terre Haute, Indiana (1951-1956), with a leave of absence from there (1951-1953) for the Chaplaincy in the U.S. Army, and Temple B'nai Israel in Galveston, Texas (1956-1965). He was the rabbi of Union Temple of Brooklyn, New York from 1965 to 1979 and was Rabbi Emeritus until 2008. He served on the Board of Governors of the World Union for Progressive Judaism and the Executive Committee of the New York Board of Rabbis, and was President of the Brooklyn Association of Reform Rabbis and the Texas Assembly of Rabbis. He served on the Catholic-Jewish Relations Committee of the Diocese of Brooklyn-Queens. He was a frequent contributor of articles and reviews to theological and educational periodicals, and editor of *Book of Prayers* (1948, 1961) for the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods and *Henry Cohen: Messenger of the Lord* to mark the centennial of the birth of the noted Texas rabbi.

Dreyfus was married to Marianne Berlak, the granddaughter of Rabbi Leo Baeck, and they had two sons, Dr. James Dreyfus (Rabbi Ellen Weinberg Dreyfus) of Homewood, Illinois, and the late Richard Dreyfus (Helen Bagot Dreyfus) of Houston, Texas, and five grandchildren.

A. Stanley Dreyfus passed away on 8 July 2008.

- Adapted from the HUC-JIR News, July 2008. Accessed 31 October 2011.

### Scope and Content

Sermons, correspondence, teaching material, and personal papers of A. Stanley Dreyfus from his years as a student through his teaching career at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

### Arrangement

This collection is arranged in five (5) series: Series A. Sermons and Writings. 1946-2006.; Series B. Correspondence. 1946-1993.; Series C. Central Conference of American Rabbis. 1970-2001.; Series D. HUC Teaching Material. 1938-2008.; Series E. General Files. 1935-2008.; Series E. General Files. 1935-2008.

### Access Restrictions

Folders 23 to 26 of Box 8 are restricted. Access requires the permission of the Executive Director of the American Jewish Archives.

### Preferred Citation

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

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-819. Stanley Dreyfus Papers. American Jewish Archives,

Cincinnati, Ohio.

**Provenance** Received from Marianne C. Dreyfus, New York, N.Y., November 2010 and May 2011.

**Processing Information** Processed by Elisa Ho, September 2011.

This collection was arranged and described according to minimal-processing standards. Funding, in part, for the arrangement and description of this collection was provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

## Index Terms

**Subjects** Jewish law / Judaism -- Relations -- Catholic Church / Rabbis  
**Personal Names** Dreyfus, A. Stanley (Alfred Stanley), 1921-2008  
**Corporate Names** Central Conference of American Rabbis / Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion / Union of American Hebrew Congregations / Union Temple (Brooklyn, New York, N.Y.)  
**Media** Sermons

### Series A. Sermons and Writings, 1946-2006

**Extent** 3.5 linear feet (3.5 record cartons)

**Arrangement** Alphabetical by topic.

#### Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1-34. Sermons and writings.  
Box 2. Folder 1-46. Sermons and writings.  
Box 3. Folder 1-61. Sermons and writings.  
Box 4. Folder 1-23. Sermons and writings.

### Series B. Correspondence, 1946-1993

**Extent** 0.5 linear feet (0.5 record carton)

**Arrangement** Chronological order.

#### Box and Folder Listing

Box 4. Folder 24-39. Correspondence, 1946-1993

### Series C. Central Conference of American Rabbis, 1970-2001

**Extent** 4 linear feet (4 record cartons)

#### Arrangement

This series is arranged into three (3) subseries: 1. Liturgy Committee; 2. Responsa Committee; 3. Other Committees.

#### Subseries 1. Liturgy Committee, 1970-2001

**Extent** 3 linear feet (3 record cartons)

**Scope and Content Note** Dreyfus chaired the Liturgy Committee from 1975 to 1979, overseeing the publication of the Reform prayerbooks Gates of Prayer, Gates of the House, Gates of Understanding, and Gates of Repentance.

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

Box 5. Folder 1-23. CCAR Liturgy.

Box 6. Folder 1-30. CCAR Liturgy.

Box 7. Folder 1-22. CCAR Liturgy.

### **Subseries 2. Responsa Committee, 1979-1997**

**Extent** 0.75 linear feet (0.75 record carton)

**Scope and Content Note** Correspondence, articles, and notes on Halakhah arranged by subject.

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

Box 7. Folder 23-26. CCAR Responsa.

Box 8. Folder 1-22. CCAR Responsa.

### **Subseries 3. Other Committees, 1984-1991**

**Extent** 0.25 linear feet (0.25 record carton)

**Scope and Content Note** Correspondence and research materials from the Committee on Homosexuality, Publications Committee, and Placement Committee. Committee on Homosexuality files (Box 8, Folder 23 to 26) are restricted.

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

Box 8. Folder 23-26. Committee on Homosexuality [Restricted].

Box 8. Folder 27. Committee on Publications.

Box 8. Folder 28. Rabbinic Placement Commission.

## **Series D. Hebrew Union College Teaching Material, 1938-2008**

**Extent** 3 linear feet (3 record cartons)

**Scope and Content Note** Lectures and notes for courses taught by Dreyfus.

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

Box 9. Folder 1-33. HUC.

Box 10. Folder 1-61. Rabbinics. Commentaries, Basic Texts.

Box 11. Folder 1-52. Doctor of Ministry.

## **Series E. General Files, 1935-2008**

**Extent** 11.4 linear feet (11 record cartons, 1 Hollinger box)

**Scope and Content Note** Files arranged by subject including marriage and funeral records performed by Dreyfus.

### **Box and Folder Listing**

Box 12. Folder 1-41. Alphabetical files. A-Cath.

Box 13. Folder 1-38. Alphabetical files. Cath-Chap.

Box 14. Folder 1-57. Alphabetical files. Char-Eng.

Box 15. Folder 1-32. Alphabetical files. Ep-Ge.

Box 16. Folder 1-40. Alphabetical files. GI-H.

Box 17. Folder 1-53. Alphabetical files. I-L.

Box 18. Folder 1-41. Alphabetical files. M-O.

Box 19. Folder 1-45. Alphabetical files. P-Ra.

Box 20. Folder 1-36. Alphabetical files. Ra-Re.

Box 21. Folder 1-49. Alphabetical files. Ri-UL.

Box 22. Folder 1-39. Alphabetical files. Un-Wo.

Box 23. Folder 1-13. Alphabetical files. Wo-Z.