

2009

# San José State University Summer Session Records

San Jose State University, Special Collections and Archives

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## Guide to the San José State University Summer Session Records

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## Guide to the San José State University Summer Session Records

Collection number: MSS-2009-02-05



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UNIVERSITY

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Processed by:  
Robert Donahue  
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Robert Donahue

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### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** San José State University Summer Session records

**Dates:** 1903-1980

**Bulk Dates:** 1950-1980

**Collection number:** MSS-2009-02-05

**Creator:** San José State University Summer Session Program

**Collection Size:** 6 boxes(5.46 linear feet)

**Repository:** San José State University. Library.

San José, California 95192-0028

**Abstract:** The San José State University Summer Session records (1903-1980) [bulk 1950-1980] consist of the program's general files, class schedules, statistical reports, and correspondence. Additional materials include files related to the college's Founder's Day and Centennial celebrations. The collection is arranged into a single series: Series I. Summer Session, 1903-1980 (bulk 1950-1980).

**Physical location:** For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the library's online catalog.

**Languages:** Languages represented in the collection: English.

### Access

The collection is open for research.

### Publication Rights

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**Preferred Citation**

San José State University Summer Session records, MSS-2009-02-05, San José State University Library Special Collections and Archives.

**Processing Information**

Collection processed and finding aid EAD encoded by Robert Donahue in 2009. Reviewed by Danelle Moon and Erin Louthen.

**Project Information**

This finding aid was created as part of the Survey and Cataloging Project, a two-year San José State University Library grant project funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. The project began in 2008. The Project Director is Danelle Moon. The Project Archivist is Erin Louthen.

**Organizational History**

In 1857 the San Francisco Board of Education established Minns' Evening Normal School for current and prospective teachers in the city. Named after its principal, George W. Minns, the institution was formally established as the first California State Normal School by the State Legislature in 1862. A decade later, the Legislature voted to move the Normal School to San José, and the school relocated to its new home on Washington Square prior to the fall term of 1872. After a fire destroyed the Normal School building in 1880, the Legislature authorized \$200,000 to construct a new building on the same site. Completed in 1881, the building was commonly referred to as the Second State Normal School. After several names and curriculum changes, Minns' Normal school is now San José State University, offering more than 134 bachelor's and master's degrees with 110 concentrations, and is recognized as one of the top public universities granting such degrees in the West.

San José Normal School principal James McNaughton foresaw the advantage of a summer session during his administrative tenure (1899-1900). However, it was McNaughton's successor, Morris Elmer Dailey (1900-1918), who was responsible for the inception of a summer program at the Normal School. Under Dailey's direction, the first summer session occurred in 1903 and 107 students enrolled for a 12-week semester. President William Kemp (1920-1923) further improved the summer session program by adding new courses such as library methods. Today, SJSU's summer session program is now widely recognized as a major contributor to the continuing education program, with such diverse course offerings as art history, English composition, elementary physics, and international relations.

**Bibliography**

"San José State University: About SJSU." [http://www.sjsu.edu/about\\_sjsu/](http://www.sjsu.edu/about_sjsu/) (accessed 04/30/2009).

Walsh, James P. *One and the Same: This History of Continuing Education at San José State University 1857-2007*. San José: San José State University, 2006.

Walsh, James P. *San José State University: An Interpretive History, 1950-2000*. San José: San José State University, 2000.

**Scope and Content of Collection**

The San José State University Summer Session records (1903-1980) [bulk 1950-1980] consist of general files, class schedules, correspondence, newspaper clippings, and statistical reports. Additional materials in the collection include Founder's Day and Centennial related files, as well as cloth samples and several artistic renderings of the college flag design.

**Arrangement**

The collection is arranged into a single series: Series I. Summer Session, 1903-1980 (bulk 1950-1980).

**Subject Headings**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

San José State University. Summer Session -- History

San José State Normal School -- History

San José State Teachers College -- History

San José State College -- History

California State University, San José -- History

San José State University -- History

Summer schools -- California -- San José

Education, Higher -- California -- San José

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Series I: **Summer Session 1903-1980 (bulk 1950-1980)**

**Physical Description:** 6 Boxes

**Series Scope and Content Summary**

This series consists of summer session general files, class descriptions and schedules, pamphlets, statistical reports, college flag designs, and plans for the Founder's Day and Centennial celebrations on campus between 1958-1966.

**Arrangement**

The series is arranged chronologically by date range.

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Box 1 **Schedules, Handbooks, Pamphlets 1903-1965**

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Box 2 **General Files, College Flag, Centennial 1950-1968**

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Box 3 **General Files 1957-1964**

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Box 4 **Classes, Pamphlets 1957-1975**

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Box 5 **Founder's Day, Centennial, General Files 1958-1966**

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Box 6 **Class Descriptions, Schedules 1976-1979**

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