# Herbert Robbins papers 6913637

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## Summary Information

| | |
|---:|---|
| **Repository:** | Rare Book and Manuscript Library |
| **Creator:** | Robbins, Herbert |
| **Title:** | Herbert Robbins papers |
| **ID:** | 6913637 |
| **ID:** | MS#1913 |
| **Date [inclusive]:** | 1940s-2001 |
| **Physical Description:** | 2.5 linear feet 4 manuscript boxes, 1 flat box |
| **Language of the Material:** | English . |

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**Preferred Citation**

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Herbert Robbins Papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Robbins developed several widely used statistical techniques and is best known for the book "What Is Mathematics?" which he wrote with the mathematician Richard Courant. Published in 1941, the book was praised by Albert Einstein. It surveyed a wide range of advanced mathematics in a manner understandable to nonmathematicians.

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## Summary

This collection consists of the papers of Herbert E. Robbins (1915-2001), Professor of Mathematical Statistics at Columbia University.

# Administrative Information

### Publication Statement

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### Revision Description

File created. EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II
migration. 2018-09-07 2019-05-20

### Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

### Processing Information

Collection-level record describing unprocessed material made public in summer 2018 as
part of the Hidden Collections initiative.

### Restrictions on Access

This collection is located off-site. You will need to request this material at least three
business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library
reading room.

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## Immediate Source of Acquisition

accn number: Source of acquisition--[source of acquisition]. Method of acquisition--Gift, Purchase, etc; Date of acquisition--date.

## Processing Information

Papers reviewed as part of the hidden collections unprocessed review in fall 2018. Papers deemed sufficiently housed and described without further intervention.

## Accruals

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. Contact rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

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# Controlled Access Headings

- Statistics
- Personal papers
- Mathematics
- Robbins, Herbert
- Columbia University. Department of Mathematics

# Collection Inventory

### Herbert Robbins papers

| Title/Description | Instances |
| --- | --- |
| Box 1 | box 1 |
| **Scope and Contents** | |
| Early work and lectures; World War II work; correspondence from 1943 on; Argonne Lab affirmation | |
| Box 2 | box 2 |

**Scope and Contents**

Correspondence; manuscripts; elections

Box 3                                                          box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Lectures on Probability (1941 and 1965); Topology
lecture; Exams; Syllabi

Box 4                                                          box 4

**Scope and Contents**

Speaking invitations; papers in honor of Robbins;
clippings; printed material by Robbins

Flat box                                                       box Flat box

**Scope and Contents**

Photographs and posters