

Nolan D. C. Lewis Papers
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Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2008

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Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

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Collection Summary

Title: Nolan D. C. Lewis Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1897-1978

Bulk Dates: 1922-1958

ID No.: MSS56945

Creator: Lewis, Nolan D. C. (Nolan Don Carpentier), 1889-1979

Extent: 4,900 items

Extent: 14 containers

Extent: 5.6 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm81056945>

Summary: Psychoanalyst, educator, and author. Correspondence, drafts of writings, research files, patient files, reports, conference material, oral history interview, and printed material documenting Lewis's contributions to the development of psychoanalysis in the United States.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Brill, A. A. (Abraham Arden), 1874-1948--Correspondence.

Hess, Rudolf, 1894-1987.

Lewis, Nolan D. C. (Nolan Don Carpentier), 1889-1979.

Lewis, Nolan D.C. (Nolan Don Carpentier), 1889-1979. Research in dementia praecox: past attainments, present trends and future possibilities. 1936.

Menninger, Karl A. (Karl Augustus), 1893-1990--Correspondence.

Meyer, Adolf, 1866-1950--Correspondence.

Oberndorf, Clarence P. (Clarence Paul), 1882-1954--Correspondence.

Rado, Sandor, 1890-1972--Correspondence.

Organizations

Committee for Research in Dementia Praecox.

Saint Elizabeths Hospital (Washington, D.C.)

Washington-Baltimore Psychoanalytic Society.

Subjects

Nazis--Psychology.

Nuremberg War Crime Trials, Nuremberg, Germany, 1946-1949.

Psychiatry.

Psychoanalysis--Societies, etc.

Psychoanalysis.

Schizophrenia.

War crime trials--Germany.

Occupations

Authors.

Educators.

Psychoanalysts.

Acquisition Information

The papers of Nolan D. C. Lewis, psychoanalyst, educator, and author, were given by Lewis to the Library of Congress in 1976. Additions were received between 1976 and 1987 from Arcangelo D'Amore, Mary Anne Lewis, Lewis's daughter, and John C. Burnham.

Processing History

The papers of Nolan D. C. Lewis were arranged and described in 1983 by William Parham. The collection was expanded and revised in 1993 by Margaret McAleer with the assistance of Brian McGuire, and additional revisions were made to the finding aid 2008.

Transfers

Photographs have been transferred to the Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as part of the Nolan D. C. Lewis Papers.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Nolan D. C. Lewis is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Nolan D. C. Lewis are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Nolan D. C. Lewis Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1889, Nov. 22	Born, Coudersport, Pa.
1914	M.D., University of Maryland, Baltimore, Md.
1914-1918	Postgraduate studies in psychology and biology, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.
1918-1919	Served, United States Army
1919-1922	Pathologist, St. Elizabeths Hospital, Washington, D.C.
1920	Married Anna Horn
1920-1935	Professor, experimental pathology and clinical psychiatry, George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
1923-1933	Director, clinical psychiatry, St. Elizabeths Hospital, Washington, D.C.
1927-1928	Studied in Vienna, Austria
1930	Founded the Washington-Baltimore Psychoanalytic Society
1935-1950	Coordinator and field representative, Committee on Research in Dementia Praecox
1936	Published <i>Research in Dementia Praecox</i> . New York: National Committee for Mental Hygiene

1936-1953	Director, New York Psychiatric Institute, New York, N.Y. Professor, psychiatry and neurology, Columbia University, New York, N.Y.
1942-1958	Managing editor, <i>Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease and Psychoanalytic Review</i>
1945-1946	Consultant, Nuremberg War Crime Trials, Nuremberg, Germany
1953-1958	Director, research in neurology and psychiatry, New Jersey hospitals and agencies
1953-1966	Consultant, Veterans Administration hospitals
1979, Dec. 18	Died, Frederick, Md.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Nolan Don Carpentier Lewis (1889-1979) span the years 1897-1978, with the bulk of the material dating from 1922 to 1958. Consisting of correspondence, patient files, drafts of writings, research files, reports, conference material, an oral history interview, and printed matter, the material documents Lewis's contributions as a practicing psychoanalyst, administrator, educator, and writer to the development of psychoanalysis in the United States and is organized into five series: [Correspondence](#), [Patient File](#), [Subject File](#), [Writings File](#), and [Printed Matter](#).

After graduating from the University of Maryland Medical School in 1914, Lewis worked primarily in general pathology and neuropathology, serving successively as director of laboratories at Maryland General Hospital, Johns Hopkins University, Phipps Psychiatric Clinic, and St. Elizabeths Hospital. While working in Baltimore between 1914 and 1918, Lewis studied psychology at Johns Hopkins under Adolf Meyer and Charles MacFie Campbell and completed his psychoanalytic training in Vienna where he attended lectures by Paul Schilder and others from 1927 to 1928. Lewis had two meetings with Sigmund Freud while in Vienna. Between 1936 and 1953, he served as director of the New York Psychoanalytic Association. In 1953 he was named director of research in neurology and psychiatry for New Jersey hospitals and agencies. He taught at various universities, including George Washington and Columbia, and served as editor of several journals.

The [Correspondence](#) series consists of letters from colleagues, professional organizations, editors of journals, and institutions with which Lewis affiliated. Subjects discussed concern research projects, writing, lecturing, and other professional matters. Among the prominent correspondents are A. A. Brill, Karl A. Menninger, Adolf Meyer, Clarence P. Oberndorf, and Sandor Rado.

The [Patient File](#) dates primarily from the 1920s when Lewis served as pathologist and later as director of clinical psychiatry at St. Elizabeths Hospital in Washington, D.C. This period was a formative decade in the development of psychoanalysis in Washington, and in 1930, Lewis, along with Anna C. Dannemann Colomb, Lucile Dooley, Ernest Hadley, Edward Hiram Reede, William Silverberg, and Harry Stack Sullivan, founded the Washington-Baltimore Psychoanalytic Society.

Although the [Subject File](#) series documents a variety of Lewis's professional activities, the bulk of the material concerns dementia precox research and the Nuremberg War Crime Trials. In 1935, Lewis assumed the duties of coordinator for the Committee on Research in Dementia Precox which oversaw research projects funded by the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite Masons of the Northern Jurisdiction. In 1936, Lewis published *Research in Dementia Precox* which explored advances in research to that date. The files on dementia precox research include general correspondence, information on individual projects, and annual reports sent to the Scottish Rite Masons. In 1946, Lewis attended the Nuremberg War Crime Trials as a consultant to an ad hoc international psychiatric commission. The commission was established by the tribunal to determine whether individual defendants were mentally competent to stand trial. Lewis was asked to examine Rudolf Hess, but like many of the psychiatrists at Nuremberg, he took the opportunity to examine other defendants as well in an effort to understand the psychological makeup of Nazi leaders. The most complete file of Nuremberg material concerns Hess and contains several physicians' reports and notes from Lewis's examination. The series also includes Lewis's notes on Franz von Papen. A notebook kept by Lewis during this period contains examination notes and general reflections on postwar Europe and the trials.

The [Subject File](#) also includes a transcript of a lengthy oral history interview with Lewis conducted by Arcangelo d'Amore, Jean Jones, and Daniel Prager. The interview focuses on the early years of psychoanalysis in the United States, with special attention to its development in Washington, D.C. The series concludes with material from Lewis's military service during World War I as a neuropathologist with the Surgeon General's laboratory in Washington, D.C.

Lewis published on a variety of topics, but his most significant research and writing focused on schizophrenia. The [Writings File](#) includes drafts and reviews of Lewis's *Research in Dementia Precox* and *Wartime Psychiatry*, published in 1954. In addition to lectures, the series also includes an article, reviews, and other research. Printed copies of some of his publications can be found in the [Printed Matter](#) series.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in five series:

- [Correspondence, 1920-1977](#)
- [Patient File, 1921-1959](#)
- [Subject File, 1897-1978](#)
- [Writings File, 1922-1965](#)
- [Printed Matter, 1936-1975](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-6	<p><u>Correspondence, 1920-1977</u></p> <p>Correspondence and attached and related material. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent.</p>
BOX 6	<p><u>Patient File, 1921-1959</u></p> <p>Correspondence and notes concerning individuals treated by Lewis. Arranged alphabetically by name of patient.</p>
BOX 7-10	<p><u>Subject File, 1897-1978</u></p> <p>Correspondence, reports, notes, research files, biographical material, appointment calendars, class lectures, and an oral history interview. Arranged alphabetically by topic or type of material.</p>
BOX 10-13	<p><u>Writings File, 1922-1965</u></p> <p>Drafts, correspondence, and notes organized into sections of writings by Lewis and by others. Lewis's writings are arranged alphabetically by type of publication and alphabetically by title therein. Writings by others are arranged alphabetically by name of author.</p>
BOX 13-14	<p><u>Printed Matter, 1936-1975</u></p> <p>Miscellaneous programs, publication notices, and newspaper clippings and printed copies of writings by Lewis and others. Lewis's publications are arranged alphabetically by title. Publications by others are arranged alphabetically by name of author.</p>

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-6	Correspondence, 1920-1977 Correspondence and attached and related material. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent.
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BOX 2	"D-E" miscellaneous, 1921-1976 (2 folders)
BOX 2	Felix, Robert H., 1944-1950
BOX 2	Finesinger, Jacob E., 1953-1958
BOX 2	"F" miscellaneous, 1935-1972
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BOX 2	"G" miscellaneous, 1931-1963
BOX 2	Harms, Ernest, 1944-1957
BOX 2	"Ha-Hi" miscellaneous, 1936-1972
BOX 3	"Ho-J" miscellaneous, 1920-1973 (3 folders)
BOX 3	Kolb, Lawrence C., 1940-1975
BOX 3	"K-L" miscellaneous, 1921-1974 (5 folders)
BOX 3	Meyer, Adolf, 1936-1963
BOX 4	"M-P" miscellaneous, 1928-1972 (6 folders)
BOX 4	Ruggles, Arthur H., 1935-1949
BOX 4	"Ra-Roe" miscellaneous, 1935-1962 (2 folders)
BOX 5	"Rog-U" miscellaneous, 1921-1976 (6 folders)
BOX 5	Williams, E. F., 1954-1957
BOX 5	"W" miscellaneous, 1932-1974 (2 folders)
BOX 6	"Y-Z" miscellaneous, 1936-1974 (2 folders)
BOX 6	Unidentified, 1938-1965, undated
BOX 6	Patient File, 1921-1959 Correspondence and notes concerning individuals treated by Lewis. Arranged alphabetically by name of patient.
BOX 6	Case journal, undated
BOX 6	De Carey, Baroness, 1922-1923
BOX 6	Easton, Margaret H., 1921, undated
BOX 6	Harmon, Dudley, 1922-1926

Patient File, 1921-1959

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BOX 6	Harmon, Mrs. Dudley, 1923
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BOX 6	Hughes, William, 1926-1928
BOX 6	Keeney, Robert L., 1959
BOX 6	Kemp, E. R., 1925
BOX 6	Morey, E. M., circa 1927
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BOX 6	Russel, W. H. L., 1926
BOX 6	Spooner, Ralph, circa 1932
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BOX 6	Ward, Elizabeth, 1953
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BOX 7-10	Subject File, 1897-1978 Correspondence, reports, notes, research files, biographical material, appointment calendars, class lectures, and an oral history interview. Arranged alphabetically by topic or type of material.
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BOX 7	Articles of interest to Lewis, list of, 1937-1942
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BOX 7	Conference on "Germany After the War," 1944
BOX 7	Dementia precox
BOX 7	American Psychiatric Association conference, interviews on research possibilities in a child guidance clinic, 1935
BOX 7	National Committee for Mental Hygiene
BOX 7	Conference of Investigators, proceedings, New York, N.Y., 1939
BOX 7	General correspondence, 1935-1938, 1959
BOX 8	Miscellany, undated
BOX 8	Projects
BOX 8	Griffith, G. W. M.
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BOX 8	Reports
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BOX 9	Special, 1937-1943

Subject File, 1897-1978

Container

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BOX 9	Research organizations, undated
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BOX 9	Financial records, 1936-1938, 1968
BOX 9	Jelliffe, Ely, photographs for book about, 1897-1978
BOX 9	Korzybski, Alfred, 1950-1951
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BOX 9	Army memoranda and orders, 1945-1946
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BOX 10	Professional appointments, 1942-1943
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BOX 10	Books
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BOX 11	"Basic Research," undated
BOX 11	"Biopsychiatry or Natural History of Psychiatry," undated
BOX 12	"Brief Outline of History of Psychiatry," undated

Writings File, 1922-1965

Container	Contents
BOX 12	"Comments on the Body-Mind Relationship," undated
BOX 12	"Comments on the Last Illness and Post-Mortem Examination of Lord Byron," 1955
BOX 12	"Comprehensive Biological Psychiatry," undated
BOX 12	"Evaluation of Present Research on Genetics of Mental Diseases," circa 1940
BOX 12	"Historical Roots of Psychotherapy," 1957
BOX 12	"Human Behavior and the Fire Prevention Program," 1947
BOX 12	"Investigation of the So-called Epileptic Constitution," 1934
BOX 12	"Main Concepts in Psychotherapy," undated
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BOX 12	"Neurology and Psychiatry," undated
BOX 12	"Neurosyphilitic Reactions," undated
BOX 12	"Obligations of Parenthood," undated
BOX 12	"Pathological Firesetting and Sexual Motivation," undated
BOX 12	"Pathology Anatomy of Progressive Paresis," part 2, undated
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BOX 12	"Problem of Malingering," undated
BOX 12	Psychopathology, 1931
BOX 12	"Recent Developments of the Vienna School in the Treatment of Neursyphilis," undated
BOX 12	"Relationship Between the Adrenal Glands and Mental Disorders," undated
BOX 12	"Review of the Scientific Publications from St. Elizabeths Hospital the Past 100 Years," 1955
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BOX 13-14	Printed Matter, 1936-1975 Miscellaneous programs, publication notices, and newspaper clippings and printed copies of writings by Lewis and others. Lewis's publications are arranged alphabetically by title. Publications by others are arranged alphabetically by name of author.
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