

Yale University Library  
Yale Divinity Library

# Guide to the James E. Dittes Papers

RG 174



Compiled by Martha Lund Smalley

2001, 2012, 2015

409 Prospect Street  
New Haven, CT 06511  
divinity.library@yale.edu

<http://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Yale Divinity Library  
409 Prospect Street  
New Haven, CT 06511  
divinity.library@yale.edu  
<http://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

**CALL NUMBER:** RG 174

**CREATOR:** Dittes, James E.

**TITLE:** James E. Dittes Papers

**DATES:** 1944-2003

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 4.5 linear feet (9 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** This collection documents the academic career of Yale professor James E. Dittes. Dittes received his B.D. and Ph.D. from Yale and taught Pastoral Theology and the Psychology of Religion at Yale beginning in 1955.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.174>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.174>.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box  
f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of James E. Dittes

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Preferred Citation

James E. Dittes Papers (RG 174), Special Collections, Yale Divinity School Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Date	Event
1926 December 26	○ Born in Cleveland, Ohio
1949	○ B.A., Oberlin College
1954	○ B.D., Yale University Divinity School
1955	○ M.S., Yale University, Department of Psychology
1958	○ Ph.D., Yale University, Department of Psychology
1955-68	○ Instructor to Associate Professor, Psychology of Religion, Yale University
1959-65	○ Executive Secretary, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion
1966-71	○ Editor, Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion
1968-84	○ Professor, Psychology of Religion, Yale University
1969-75	○ Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Religious Studies, Yale University
1975-82	○ Chairperson, Department of Religious Studies, Yale University
1984-2002	○ Professor, Pastoral Theology and Psychology, Yale University
2009 August 24	○ Died in Hamden, CT

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## Scope and Contents

[I. Correspondence](#)

[II. Writings](#)

[III. Course-Related Materials](#)

[IV. Personal and Biographical material](#)

These papers were given to the library by Prof. Dittes as he approached retirement. They document his long and noteworthy academic career at Yale. Series I, Correspondence, provides a glimpse of issues and activities that have been important to Dittes over the past half century. Series II, Writings, includes sermons, talks, lectures, published articles, papers written while Dittes was a student, unpublished papers, and reviews. Series III, Course-Related Materials, provides a good overview of courses taught by Dittes from 1955 to 1999. Series IV, Personal and Biographical Material, includes autobiographical writings and other material documenting Dittes' life and work.

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## Arrangement

I. Correspondence

II. Writings

III. Course-Related Materials

IV. Personal and Biographical material

## Collection Contents

### Series I: Correspondence

General		
b. 8, f. 116	ATS Executive Director Candidacy	1979
b. 1, f. 2	Brewster, Kingman, Jr	1972
b. 1, f. 3	Community Activities	1949-1972
b. 1, f. 4	Dispute over Oberlin College governance	1949-1951
b. 9, f. 124	Donald Capp Correspondence, re. special issue of <i>Pastoral Psychology</i>	2001-2002
b. 9, f. 122	In Parish Pastoral Studies Program	1959
b. 8, f. 117	Job Search	1979-1981
b. 1, f. 5	Letters to editors	1976-1983
b. 1, f. 6	National Organizations	1944-1977
b. 1, f. 7	On-site school evaluations	1977-1988
b. 1, f. 8	Pastoral	1955-1986
b. 1, f. 9	"The Famous"	1960-1977
Manuscript Evaluations		
b. 9, f. 139	Correspondence re. Journal for Scientific Study of Religion (JSSR), notes and manuscript rejections	1966-1971
b. 9, f. 140	Correspondence re. Journal for Scientific Study of Religion (JSSR), letters encouraging revision for publication	1966-1971
b. 1, f. 10-13	Various	1960-1976
b. 2, f. 13	Various	1977-2002
Yale-related		
b. 8, f. 118	Curriculum Committee	1964-65
b. 9, f. 126	Beecher Lectureship, including Garrison Keillor correspondence	1984-1985
b. 2, f. 14	Discussions of YDS policies and programs	1959-1999
b. 9, f. 120	Dissertation Reports	1972-1982
b. 2, f. 17	Leave salary	1971-1972
b. 2, f. 15	Lee Keck correspondence	1979-1989
b. 9, f. 123	Ministry Studies Committee	1983-1984
b. 9, f. 128	Old Testament Appointment, Bonnie Kittel	1976-1977

## Yale-related (continued)

b. 9, f. 127	Study of cults	1982
b. 9, f. 125	Terry Lectureship	1974-1982
b. 8, f. 119	Re. Divinity students in Psych 37b	1968
b. 2, f. 16	Re. Leon Watts	1983

**Series II: Writings**

Sermons, lectures, talks		
b. 2, f. 18-27	Various	1960-1978
b. 3, f. 28-38	Various	1979-1999
Booklength		
b. 3, f. 39	Bibliography of writings which appear in books	
b. 3, f. 40	Chinese Translation of <i>The Male Predicament</i>	
Articles		
b. 3, f. 41	Bibliography of Articles	
b. 3, f. 42	"A Child-Centered Culture" from <i>Children's Religion</i>	
b. 3, f. 43	"A Men's Movement for the Church?" from <i>The Christian Century</i> ; "Analytical (Jungian) Psychology and Pastoral Care" from <i>Dictionary of Pastoral Care and Counseling</i>	
b. 3, f. 44	"A Symposium on Pastoral Research" from <i>The Journal of Pastoral Care</i>	
b. 3, f. 45	"Galvanic Skin Response as a Measure of Patient's Reaction to Therapist's Permissiveness" from <i>Abnormal and Social Psychology</i>	
b. 3, f. 46	"Affiliation:Comparability or Compatibility?"	
b. 3, f. 47	"Anatomy of Anxiety" from <i>The Connecticut State Medical Journal</i> ; "Attractiveness of Group as Function of Self-Esteem and Acceptance of Group" from <i>The Journal of Abnormal and Special Psychology</i> ; "Beyond William James" from <i>Beyond the Classics? Essays in the Scientific Study of Religion</i>	
b. 3, f. 48	"Biographical/Theological Exegesis of Psychological Texts:The Case of Freud's Search for 'After-Life'" from <i>Religion and Social Order</i>	
b. 3, f. 49	"Birth Order and Vulnerability to Differences in Acceptance"	
b. 3, f. 50	"Birth Order as a Selective Factor Among Volunteer Subjects" from <i>Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology</i> ; "Boison as Autobiographer: Unblinking but Unseeing" from <i>Journal of Psychology and Christianity</i>	
b. 4, f. 51	"Breakdown of Society" and "Opinion Pollster" from <i>Theological Education</i>	
b. 4, f. 52	"Changes in Layman's Expectations of the Minister's Role" from <i>Ministry Studies</i>	
b. 4, f. 53	"Conceptual Deprivation and Statistical Rigor: Comment on 'Social Deprivation and Religiosity'" from <i>Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion</i> ; "Confessing Away the Soul with the Sins, or: The Risks of Uncle Tomism Among the HUMANISTS. A Reply to Robert Bellah" from <i>Council on the Study of Religion</i>	

## Articles (continued)

- b. 4, f. 54 "Continuities between the Life and Thought of Augustine" from *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*; "Effects of Changes in Self Esteem Upon Impulsiveness and Deliberation in Making Judgements" from *The Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology*
- b. 4, f. 55 "Effects of Different Conditions of Acceptance Upon Conformity to Group Norms" from *The Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology*
- b. 4, f. 56 "Effects of Manipulated Self-Esteem on Persuasibility Depending on Threat and Complexity of Communication" from *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*; "Extinction during Psychotherapy of GSR Accompanying 'Embarrassing Statements'" from *The Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology*
- b. 4, f. 57 "Face Impression Study - Correlation of TSI Scores with Student Self-Report of Motivation and With Interviewer Rating"
- b. 4, f. 58 "Facts and Fantasy in (the Minister's) Mental Health" from *Pastoral Psychology*; "Foreword" from *A Study of Generations*
- b. 4, f. 59 "Impulsive Closure as Reaction to Failure-Induced Threat" from *Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology*
- b. 4, f. 60 "In Relation to All Psychology" from *Pastoral Psychology*; "Justification by Faith and the Experimental Psychologist" *Religion in Life*
- b. 4, f. 61 "Now it Came to Pass That..." from *The Pulpit*
- b. 4, f. 62 "On the Need for Control in Persuasive Scientific Communications" from *Psychology Reports*; "Pastoral Implications" December 1989, March 1990, February 1991, and April 1991 from *Lectionary Homiletics*; "Pastoral Theology on the West Bank: Reflections on Seminary Politics" from *Journal of Pastoral Theology*
- b. 4, f. 63 "Philosophy of Learning and Character" from *Religious Education*; "Previous Studies on Content Analysis of Psychotherapy", Appendix A from *Scoring Human Motives: A Manual*
- b. 4, f. 64 "Psychology of Religion" from *Handbook of Social Psychology*; "Psychology and a Ministry of Faith" from *The Ministry and Mental Health*
- b. 4, f. 65 "'Reason for Being' at Union and Yale" from *The Christian Century*; "Recollections of the Adolescence and Young Adulthood of the USSR" from *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*
- b. 4, f. 66 "Relation of TSI Scores and Selected Items of Biographical Information"; "Release from Idolatry" from *New Conversations*
- b. 4, f. 67 "Religion: Maker of Bonds and Boundaries" from *Papers in Comparative Studies*; "Religion, Prejudice, and Personality" from *Research on Religious Development*
- b. 4, f. 68 "Religious Education Beyond Religion" from *Religious Education*
- b. 4, f. 69 "Research on Clergymen: Factors Influencing Decisions for Religious Service and Effectiveness in the Vocation"; "Science vs. Religion." from *Psychologia et Sociologia Religionum*



## Articles (continued)

b. 4, f. 70	"Secular Religion:Dilemma of Churches and Researchers" from <i>Religious Research</i>	
b. 4, f. 71	"The Symbolic Value of Celibacy for the Catholic Faithful" from <i>Concilium:Theology in the Age of Renewal</i>	
b. 4, f. 72	"Teachings and Research" from <i>Council on the Study of Religion</i>	
b. 4, f. 73	"The Christian Mission and Turkish Islam" from <i>The Muslim World</i>	
b. 4, f. 74	"The Effect of Cognitive Ambiguity on Anxiety and Affiliative Preference"; "The Investigator as an Instrument of Investigation: Some Explanatory Observations on the Compleat Researcher" from <i>Encounter with Erikson</i>	
b. 9, f. 129	"The Male Role Denies Men's Needs" from <i>Yale Weekly Bulletin and Calendar</i>	
b. 4, f. 75	"The Ministry of Merging Divinity Schools"; "The Mitigated Self from <i>The Endangered Self</i>	
b. 4, f. 76	"The Relevance of Being Irrelevant" from <i>The Princeton Seminary Bulletin</i>	
b. 4, f. 77	"To Accept and To Celebrate Conflict" from <i>Ministry Studies</i> ; "Tracking God's Call: Basic Theoretical Issues in Clergy Assessment" from <i>Clergy Assessment and Career Development</i> ; "Two Issues in Measuring Religion" from <i>Research on Religious Development</i>	
b. 4, f. 78	"Typing the Typologies: Some Parallels in the Career of Church-sect and Extrinsic-Instinsic" from <i>Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion</i>	
b. 4, f. 79	"Using the Mind to Show the Soul" from <i>Contemporary Psychology</i>	
b. 4, f. 80	"Who Calls us 'Healer'?" from <i>The Christian Ministry</i> ; "Why Conflicts?" from <i>Growth in Ministry</i>	
b. 4, f. 81	Three articles derived from PhD dissertation - "Attraction of Group as Functions of Self-Esteem and Acceptance by Group" and "Effect of Changes in Self-Esteem Upon Impulsiveness and Deliberation in Making Judgments" and "Justification by Faith and the Experimental Psychologist"	
Reviews		
b. 5, f. 82	Reviews and Bibliography of Reviews	
Student Papers (by JED)		
b. 5, f. 83	Papers	1949
b. 5, f. 84-88	Papers	1950-1954
b. 6, f. 89	Papers	1955
b. 6, f. 90	PhD dissertation	1958
Unpublished Writings and Notes		
b. 6, f. 91	Various inc. Estonians, Yale Study on Roommate Selection, Space Relations Test Materials	1958

## Unpublished Writings and Notes (continued)

b. 6, f. 92	Various inc. Different Effects of Manipulated Self-Esteem on Persuasibility, Careers of Rockefeller Brothers Fellows At Yale Divinity School, 1954-62	1961-62
b. 6, f. 93	Various inc. Effects of social Comparison vs. social support, the effect of cognitive ambiguity and affiliative preference, closure as a factor in persuasability, proposal of project for Guggenheim fellowship	1964
b. 6, f. 94	Various inc. Apostle's Summons (poem), Definition as a process of perceptual differentiation	1965-1967
b. 6, f. 95	Various inc. Definition as a process of perceptual differentiation, Sam: Artful Decommitter, Does religion celebrate or compensate?, Defensive Functions of Cognitive Closure Terminal Progress Report, Research Proposals in the Psychology of Religion, The Utility of Psychological Tests for Theological Students, Continuities between the life and thought of selected religious thinkers, book proposals, notes re. religion, notes re. catholic priesthood	1971-1973
b. 6, f. 96	Various inc. Ministry: Starkness at Noon, Spiritual Life Development: Between Captivity and the Promised Land, What Kind of Persons Become Ministers?, Belief as a Mark of Religionless Religion	1974-1978
b. 6, f. 97	Various inc. notes re. dissatisfaction of congregations with their clergy, writing journal, seminar proposals "the function of religion as a choreographer of bonds", "Freedom and the Religious Personality", "The 'Theologies' of Freud and Jung"	1980-1986
b. 6, f. 98	Various inc. About Men: Approximations, Psychology of Religion, Some strategies for mitigating psychoanalysis' antagonism to religion	1988-1991
b. 6, f. 99	Various inc. NEH Summer Seminar "Augustine and Jung: Paradigmatic Religious Thinkers in Autobiography", notes: autobiographical	1995-1999
b. 9, f. 135	Original Manuscript, "An Article on Turkish Mission"	1952
b. 9, f. 135	Reminiscence about Yale Divinity School during the 1950s	1992
b. 9, f. 136	Unfinished Manuscript, "BELT", Re. commitment, alienation, etc., tentatively titled "When Idols Crumble"	n. d.
b. 9, f. 137	Notes, Re. Freud esp. <i>Moses &amp; Maimonides</i>	1988-1999
b. 9, f. 138	Notes, Re. commitment and alienation	1970-1979
Tributes		
b. 7, f. 100	Various	1968, 1990

**Series III: Course-Related Materials**

b. 7, f. 101	Student paper comments, grades	
b. 7, f. 102-104	30A Psychology of Religion	1959-1991
b. 7, f. 105-106	160A Psychological Foundations of Personality	1955-1962
b. 7, f. 107-108	310A Personality and Religion	1962-1968
b. 9, f. 130	310B Personality and Religion	1963-1969
b. 9, f. 131	865B Psychology of Religion, 1950-2000: a personal retrospective	2002
b. 9, f. 132	868B Moses and Maimonides	2000
b. 9, f. 133	908A Pastoral Counseling	1997-1999
b. 8, f. 109	908B Pastoral Counseling	1996-1999
b. 9, f. 134	963B The Persona of the Preacher and Other Preaching Classes	1987-1991
b. 8, f. 110	Options in Faith and Ministry course	1981-1987
b. 8, f. 111	Miscellaneous courses	

## Series IV: Personal and Autobiographical Material

b. 8, f. 112	General	
b. 8, f. 113	Essay in <i>Psychology and Faith: The Christian Experience of Eighteen Psychologists</i>	1978
b. 8, f. 120	Personal statement requesting ordination	n. d.
b. 8, f. 114	Transcript from interview	1994
b. 8, f. 115	"Some Accidents, Coincidents, and Intents: A Vocational Narrative" for <i>Pastoral Psychology</i>	2003
b. 9, f. 141	Bound volume of letters to Dittes from colleagues and friends: "Professor James E. Dittes: Witness to Healing and Hope"	2002

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Educators  
Pastoral theology

### **Names**

Dittes, James E.

### **Corporate Body**

Yale University -- Faculty