Guide to the San José State Normal School and San Jose State Teachers College Course Catalogs Collection

Collection number: MSS-2010-05-05

SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

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Date Completed: 2010
Encoded by: Robert Donahue

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Descriptive Summary

Title: San José State Normal School and San Jose State Teachers College Course Catalogs Collection
Dates: 1872-1935
Collection number: MSS-2010-05-05
Creator: San José State University
Collection Size: 8 boxes, 3.04 linear feet
Repository: San José State University. Library.
San José, California 95192-0028

Abstract: The San Jose State Normal School and San Jose State Teachers College Course Catalogs Collection, 1872-1935, documents the school's curriculum and coursework over a sixty-year period. The collection includes fall, spring and summer session catalogs, as well as catalogs for specific disciplines such as Homemaking and Art. This collection is arranged into one series: Series I. San Jose State Normal School and San Jose State Teachers College Course Catalogs, 1872-1935.

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.

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Preferred Citation
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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.

Processing Information

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 Jose, 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 Jose 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.

Bibliography
San José State University. About SJSU. http://www.sjsu.edu/about_sjsu/

Scope and Content of Collection
The San Jose State Normal School and San Jose State Teachers College Course Catalogs Collection, 1872-1935, documents the school’s curriculum and coursework over a sixty-year period. The collection includes fall, spring and summer session catalogs, as well as catalogs for specific disciplines such as Homemaking and Art.

Arrangement
This collection is arranged into one series: Series I. San Jose State Normal School and San Jose State Teachers College Course Catalogs, 1872-1935.

Indexing Terms
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 -- History
San Jose State Normal School -- History
San Jose State Teachers College -- History
Education, Higher -- California -- San Jose
Teachers Colleges -- Curricula -- California -- San José
Teachers -- Training of -- California -- San José
School catalogs -- California -- San José
Series I: San Jose State Normal School and San Jose State Teachers College Course Catalogs 1872-1935

San Jose State Normal School Course Catalogs 1872-1916

Physical Description: 8 boxes

Series Scope and Content Summary

This series contains course catalogs for San Jose State Normal School and San Jose State Teachers College, which document the early years of the school’s curriculum. In addition, it should be noted that significant changes were made to the school’s curriculum in 1888, 1901-1902, and 1921-1922.

Early courses of study at the Normal School included Psychology, Drawing, Reading and Literature, Geography and Methods, Arithmetic and Methods, Teaching, Shakespeare, and School Hygiene. Summer sessions were established in 1904, and offered Drawing, Nature Study, and Manual Training. Later summer sessions offered a wider variety of classes, including Industrial Arts, Kindergarten Instruction, Home Economics, and Americanization Problems.

This series also includes department-specific course catalogs highlighting the coursework of several departments including Music, Art, and Home Mechanics.

Arrangement

This series is arranged chronologically by date range.

Boxes 1-5
San Jose State Normal School Course Catalogs 1872-1916

Boxes 6-8
San Jose State Normal School and San Jose State Teachers College Course Catalogs, Summer and Winter Session Catalogs, Department-Specific Catalogs 1915-1935