BLUMENTHAL, DAVID R.
David R. Blumenthal papers, 1975-2010

Emory University
Emory University Archives
Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library
Atlanta, GA 30322
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Collection Stored Off-Site
All or portions of this collection are housed off-site. Materials can still be requested but researchers should expect a delay of up to two business days for retrieval.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Blumenthal, David R.
Title: David R. Blumenthal papers, 1975-2010
Call Number: Series No. 301
Extent: 6 linear ft. (6 boxes)
Abstract: Papers of Emory faculty member David R. Blumenthal, including teaching files, correspondence, administrative files, and audiovisual material.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
Special restrictions apply: Collection stored off-site. Researchers must contact the Rose Library in advance to access this collection.

Unprocessed collection. Collection is closed to research in accordance with Emory University Archives Access Policy for unprocessed materials.

Use copies have not been made for audiovisual material in this collection. Researchers must contact the Rose Library at least two weeks in advance for access to these items. Collection restrictions, copyright limitations, or technical complications may hinder the Rose Library's ability to provide access to audiovisual material.

Researchers must contact the Rose Library in advance for access to unprocessed born digital materials in this collection. Collection restrictions, copyright limitations, or technical complications may hinder the Rose Library's ability to provide access to unprocessed born digital materials.

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**Source**
Gift of David Blumenthal, 2019

**Custodial History**
David R. Blumenthal gifted the acquisition to the Rose Library in 2019. University Archivist John Bence packed the materials at Blumenthal's office on Emory University's campus and at his home in Atlanta.

**Citation**
[after identification of item(s)], David R. Blumenthal papers, Emory University Archives, Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

**Appraisal Note**
University Archivist, John Bence, acquired the collection as part of the Emory University Archives holdings. During accessioning in 2019, Rose Library staff removed and shredded a small number of duplicative programs. Appraisal decisions were made by Accessioning Archivist, Meaghan O'Riordan, in consultation with John Bence.

**Processing**
Arranged and described at the collection level by Meaghan O'Riordan, May 2019.

**Collection Description**

**Biographical Note**
David R. Blumenthal (1938-) is the Jay and Leslie Cohen Professor of Judaic Studies at the Tam Institute for Jewish Studies at Emory University (Atlanta, Georgia). He was born in Houston, Texas, and his father was Rabbi Aaron H. Blumenthal. Blumenthal earned a bachelor's degree at the University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia) in 1961. He attended the Jewish Theological Seminary (New York, New York) for the rabbinic program, graduating with rabbinic ordination in 1964. Blumenthal served as a rabbi for four years, during which time he met and married his wife, Ursula Noether. He then earned a Ph.D. in religion at Columbia University (New York, New York) in 1972. He teaches and writes on constructive Jewish theology, medieval Judaism, Jewish mysticism, and Holocaust studies. His publications include the two volume *Understanding Jewish Mysticism* (1978, 1982), *God at the Center* (1988), *Facing the Abusing God: A Theology of Protest* (1993), *The Banality of Good and Evil: Moral Lessons from the Shoah and Jewish Tradition* (1999), and *Philosophic Mysticism: Essays in Rational Religion* (2007). He is a member of the European Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Religion.

**Scope and Content Note**
The collection consists of the personal papers of David R. Blumenthal from 1975-2010 and include teaching files, correspondence, administrative files, and audiovisual material. Most of the material relates to the creation of the Jewish Studies department at Emory University. Most of
the audiovisual material consists of interviews of Holocaust survivors recorded on audiocassette tapes.

**Arrangement Note**
Arranged by record type.
## Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Administrative files, 1975-2010 [RESTRICTED]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Audiovisual materials, primarily including interviews with Holocaust survivors, 1978-2005 [original: VHS (12), audiocassette (41), compact discs (2), and DVDs (3)] [RESTRICTED]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Born digital material, undated [RESTRICTED]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Correspondence, 1985-2001 [RESTRICTED]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Poster, Judaic Studies, Emory University, undated [RESTRICTED]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Scrapbook, &quot;The Big Day,&quot; documenting the inauguration of the Jewish Studies department at Emory University, 1976-1977 [RESTRICTED]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Teaching files and printed material, 1976-1993 [RESTRICTED]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>