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[Robert L. Spitzer Collection](#)

SPITZER, ROBERT L.

Robert L. Spitzer collection, 1953-2010.

.75 cubic feet (2 boxes, 3 folders)

#M-0172

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE: Spitzer was a noted psychiatrist best known as one of the key figures in the modern classification of mental illness, especially as reflected in the American Psychiatric Association's *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, generally known as the DSM. He was chair of the APA committee which produced the influential third edition (1980) of this work, known as *DSM-III*.

Spitzer was educated at Cornell (BA, 1953) and New York University (MD, 1957). He received psychoanalytic training at the Columbia University Center for Psychoanalytic Training and Research. Spitzer spent his entire career at Columbia where he was professor of psychiatry at the Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons and on the staff of the affiliated New York State Psychiatric Institute. He died in 2015.

SCOPE AND CONTENT: The collection consists of published works collected by Robert L. Spitzer relating to psychiatric evaluation and nomenclature, as well as awards, certificates, diplomas, medals and other memorabilia documenting his career. Among the publications are drafts, related publications, and translations of the third edition (1980) of the American Psychiatric Association's *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, generally known as "DSM-III." Other publications include evaluation criteria and forms created by Spitzer and others in the 1960s for the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene.

The personal material includes his bachelor of arts and medical diplomas and numerous certificates relating to professional memberships and awards.

ARRANGEMENT: Organized in two series: I. Publications; II. Certificates, Diplomas, and Memorabilia.

ACCESS: Open without restrictions.

LANGUAGE: English. The translations of the DSM-III are in Chinese, Danish, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Italian, and Swedish.

CITE AS: Robert L. Spitzer Collection, Archives & Special Collections, Columbia University Health Sciences Library.

PROVENANCE: Gift of Janet Williams, 2015-2017 (accessions #2015.016, #2015.022, #2016.014, #2017.031).

REMOVALS: The one photograph in the collection has been moved to the general photograph holdings.

LC Subjects

Spitzer, Robert L.

Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders.

Mental illness – Classification.

Mental illness – Diagnosis.

Awards.

Certificates.

Diplomas.

Medals.

MESH

Mental Disorders – diagnosis.

Robert L. Spitzer Collection, 1953-2010

Container List			
Box		Title	Date
Series I: Publications [loose in box]			
1		<i>DSM-III: Operational Criteria Draft</i> – Prepared by the American Psychiatric Association Task Force on Nomenclature and Statistics	1977, April 15
1		<i>DSM-III: Operational Criteria Draft</i> – Prepared by the American Psychiatric Association Task Force on Nomenclature and Statistics	1978, January 15
1		<i>Quick Reference to the Diagnostic Criteria from DSM-III</i> (Washington D.C: American Psychiatric Association, 1980)	1980
1		<i>Draft: DSM-III-R in Development 10/5/85</i> : Work Group to Revise DSM-III, American Psychiatric Association	1985, October 5
1		<i>Second Draft: DSM-III-R in Development 8/1/86</i> : Work Group to Revise DSM-III, American Psychiatric Association	1986, August 1
1		<i>American Psychiatric Association Quick Reference to Diagnostic Criteria from DSM-III</i> [followed by Chinese characters]	1981
1		<i>Beknopte handleiding bij de Diagnostische Kriteria van de DSM-III</i> (Lisse: Swets & Zeitlinger, 1982)	1982
1		<i>DSM III classificatie</i> (Lisse: Swets & Zeitlinger, 1982)	1982
1		<i>DSM-III-R Falldarstellungen</i> (Weinheim und Basel: Beltz Verlag, 1991; Washington DC: American Psychiatric Press 1989)	1991
1		<i>DSM-III-R: Casi Clinici</i> (Milan; Masson, 1991)	1991
1		<i>Forschungs-Diagnose Kriterien (RDC)</i> (Weinheim und Basel: Beltz Verlag; Research Diagnostic Criteria, 1978; 2nd. Auf., 1982)	1982
1		<i>Diagnostiske Kriterier Fra DSM-III</i> (Kobenhavn, Arhus, Odense, FADL, 1980)	1980
1		<i>Diagnosen-schlüssel und Glossar psychiatrischer Krankheiten</i> (Berlin, Heidelberg, New York: Springer 1978)	1978
1		<i>Mini-D Diagnostiska Kriterier Enligt DSM-III</i> (Stockholm: Pilgrim Press, 1983)	1983
1		<i>Mini DSM-III Criteres diagnostiques</i> (Paris; Masson, 1984)	1984
1		<i>Mini DSM-III Criteri diagnostici</i> (Milan: Masson, 1983)	1983
1		<i>Συντομος Οδηγος Διαγνωστικων Κριτηριων απο το DSM-III</i> (University Studio Press, 1984?)	1984?

1	American Psychiatric Association. Task Force on DSM-IV. <i>DSM-IV Options Book: Work in Progress</i> , 9/1/91	1991, Sept. 1
1	American Psychiatric Association. Task Force on DSM-IV. <i>DSM-IV Draft Criteria</i> , 3/1/93	1993, March 1
Box	Title	Date
2	DSM-III 4/15/77 Draft – Second Printing; <i>Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders</i> , Third Edition (Prepared by the Task Force on Nomenclature and Statistics of the American Psychiatric Association)	1977, April 15
2	DSM-III Draft 1/15/78 Second Printing: <i>Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders</i> (Prepared by the Task Force on Nomenclature and Statistics of the American Psychiatric Association)	1978, January 15
2	Robert L. Spitzer, et al. <i>A Psychiatrist's Casebook (DSM-III Casebook)</i> (New York: Warner Books, 1981)	1981
2	Robert L. Spitzer, Eugene I. Burdock, and Anne S. Hardesty. <i>Mental Status Schedule</i> (Biometrics Research, New York State Department of Mental Hygiene, 1964)	1964
2	Robert L. Spitzer, Jean Endicott, and George M. Cohen. <i>Manual of Instructions, Mental Status Schedule</i> (Biometrics Research, New York State Department of Mental Hygiene; Research Division, Washington Heights Community Service, New York State Psychiatric Institute; Dept. of Psychiatry, Columbia University, July 1966)	1966, July
2	Robert L. Spitzer, Jean Endicott, and George M. Cohen. <i>Psychiatric Status Schedule</i> (2nd Ed.) (Evaluation Unit, Biometrics Research, New York State Department of Mental Hygiene, New York State Psychiatric Institute, Oct. 1968)	1968, October
2	Robert L. Spitzer, Jean Endicott, and George M. Cohen. <i>Manual of Instructions, Psychiatric Status Schedule</i> (2nd Ed.), Nov. 1968	1968, November
2	Robert L. Spitzer, Jean Endicott, and George M. Cohen. <i>Manual of Instructions, Psychiatric Evaluation Form</i> (Evaluation Section, Biometrics Research, New York State Department of Mental Hygiene, New York State Psychiatric Institute, March 1969)	1969, March
2	Robert L. Spitzer, Miriam Gibbon, and Jean Endicott. <i>Family Evaluation Form FEF</i> , Dec. 1971	1971, December
2	Robert L. Spitzer and Jean Endicott. <i>Schedule for Affective Disorders and Schizophrenia – Change Version</i> (Draft, Feb. 18, 1977)	1977, February 18
2	Robert L. Spitzer and Jean Endicott. <i>Schedule for Affective Disorders and Schizophrenia SADS</i> . Third Ed., Jan. 1978	1978, January
2	Jean Endicott, Nancy Andreasen and Robert L. Spitzer. <i>Family History – Research Diagnostic Criteria</i> , 7/18/78	1978, July 18

2	DIS/Diagnostic Interview Schedule – Version III (National Opinion Research Center, 4/81)	1981, April
2	Robert L. Spitzer, Jean Endicott and Eli Robins. <i>Research Diagnostic Criteria (RDC) for a Selected Group of Functional Disorders</i> (Feb. 1, 1978)	1978, February 1
2	State of New York Department of Mental Hygiene: Psychiatric Evaluation Form-R2 (no date) (2 copies)	undated
2	Lee N. Robins, John E. Helzer, Jack Croughan, Janet B.W. Williams, Robert L. Spitzer. <i>NIHM Diagnostic Interview Schedule</i> [Arabic translation] [no date]	undated
2	<i>Prime MD Clinician Evaluation Guide</i> (Roerig Pratt Pharmaceuticals, no date)	undated

Series II: Certificates, Diplomas, Realia, and Memorabilia (housed in 3 folders, va

	Alpha Epsilon Delta, New York Alpha Chapter. Certificate of Membership, Feb. 11, 1953	1953, February 11
	Alpha Omega Alpha, New York University Chapter. Certificate, Election as Member, 1957	1957
	American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. Certificate of Board Certification as psychiatrist, Dec. 1964	1964, December
	American College of Psychiatrists. Certificate, Election as Fellow, Feb. 8, 1975	1975, February 8
	American Psychiatric Association. Award for Research in Psychiatry, May 23, 1994 (small plaque)	1994, May 23
	American Psychiatric Association. Certificate, 50 Years of Service, Jan. 1, 2010	2010, January 1
	American Psychiatric Association. Adolf Meyer Award, May 11, 1987 (small plaque)	1987, May 11
	American Psychiatric Association. Certificate of Commendation for serving as chairperson of Task Force on Nomenclature and Statistics, 1974-1980	1980?
	American Psychiatric Association. Certificate, Election as Fellow, May 30, 1968	1968, May 30
2	American Psychiatric Association. Two medals with portrait of Benjamin Rush [no other identification] [housed in Box 2]	undated
2	American Psychiatric Association. Two medals, one with "50 year life" inscribed on verso; the other inscribed "Life fellow." [housed in Box 2]	undated
	Cornell University. Diploma, Bachelor of Arts, June 15, 1953	1953, June 15
	Framed clipping. "The Mental Health 'quiz': Q-and-A approach holds promise for standardized diagnostic aid" by Barbara Yuncker, <i>New York Post</i> , July 28, 1963, p. 4.	1963, July 28
	Medical Society of the County of New York. Certificate, Election as Member, Nov. 24, 1958	1958, November 24

	Menninger, Karl, Typed Letter Signed, Oct. 16, 1978, Topeka, KS, to Dr. Robert L. Spitzer, 1 p. [glued to larger board]	1978, October 16
	Middletown Psychiatric Center, Middletown, NY, Certificate, Dr. Lawrence Kolb Award, May 12, 1992	1992, May 12
	National Board of Medical Examiners of the U.S.A. Certificate, Diplomate of the NBME, July 2, 1958	1958, July 2
	New York State Psychiatric Institute and the Presbyterian Hospital. Diploma, Residency in Psychiatry, June 1961	1961, June
	<i>New York Times</i> , enlargement of June 30, 1972 article on Spitzer's jazz combo performances in Ardsley, NY	1972, June 30
	New York University. Diploma, Doctor of Medicine, June 1957	1957, June
	New York University. Founders Day Certificate, April 12, 1957	1957, April 12
	University of the State of New York, Education Department. License to Practice Medicine and Surgery, July 24, 1958	1958, July 24