# Table of Contents

- Descriptive Summary: 3
- Information on Use: 3
- Access: 3
- Citation: 3
- Biographical Note: 3
- Scope Note: 4
- Related Resources: 6
- Subject Headings: 6
- INVENTORY: 6
- Series I: Correspondence: 6
- Series II: Subject Files: 6
- Series III: Academic: 7
- Subseries 1: Oxford: 7
- Subseries 2: University of Chicago: 7
- Subseries 3: Other: 9
- Series IV: Research: 10
- Series V: Writings: 13
- Series VI: Restricted: 16
Descriptive Summary

Identifier   ICU.SPCL.ADKINSA
Title        Adkins, Arthur. Papers
Date         1948-1996
Size         7.5 linear feet (15 boxes)
Repository   Special Collections Research Center
             University of Chicago Library
             1100 East 57th Street
             Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.
Abstract     Arthur Adkins, classicist, University of Chicago (1974-1996). The papers
             include Adkins' notebooks collected as a student at Oxford, personal and
             professional correspondence, teaching notes and materials (including course
             outlines and exams) relating primarily to Greek subjects, research material
             including Xeroxed articles, drafts and published copies of articles and papers,
             documentation by and about the University of Chicago’s Committee on the
             Ancient Mediterranean World (CAMW), and administrative files regarding
             the University’s Department of Classics.

Information on Use

Access
Series VI, Restricted, includes departmental files and student material that fall under a 30 or 80
year restriction.

The remainder of the collection is open for research.

Citation
When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Adkins, Arthur. Papers,
[Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Biographical Note
Arthur Adkins was born in 1929. He was raised and educated in Great Britain. He received his
B.A, M.A. and D.Phil. from Oxford in 1952, 1955, and 1957 respectively. After receiving his
D.Phil., he held positions at the British universities of Glasgow, London, Oxford, and Reading.
He was offered a position as a Senior Visiting Fellow in the Cornell University Society for the
Humanities in Ithaca, New York for the academic year 1967-1968 but he turned it down in
order to focus on departmental restructuring then occurring at the University of Reading. He
was offered the position once again for the academic year 1969-1970, at which time he accepted.
Adkins joined the University of Chicago faculty in 1974. In 1977, he was named the Edward Olson Professor, a prestigious appointment allotted to a distinguished Professor in Classical Languages & Literatures. He served as Chairman of Classical Languages & Literatures from 1975 to 1980. In 1975, Adkins and University of Chicago professor James Redfield conceived the Committee on the Ancient Mediterranean World (CAMW). The program, instituted in May 1979, granted advanced degrees and coordinated the work of scholars studying languages, history, and archaeology. It was one of the first PhD programs in the country to offer an interdisciplinary approach to the ancient world. He served as Chair of the committee for a number of years following and participated in a series of efforts to restructure and refine the committee’s curriculum, requirements, and general organization and purpose. The CAMW has since be restructured and has evolved into what is now known as the Program in the Ancient Mediterranean World (PAMW).

In his own academic research and writing, Adkins was particularly influential in the field of Ancient Greek values and ethics. His work focused on issues of competitive and cooperative virtues in early Greek literature and society. He began studying these topics during his time at Oxford. A series of four binders (included in this collection) filled with notes taken as an undergraduate later served as reference material for his 1985 book, Poetic Craft and the Early Greek Elegists. Materials within the Arthur Adkins Papers collection indicate that he was very well-respected by both colleagues and students. At the University of Chicago, he was revered for his conscientious concern for and attentive attitude towards his students.


Arthur Adkins and his wife Elizabeth had two children, Matthew and Deborah. Professor Arthur Adkins died of cancer on February 13, 1996.

**Scope Note**

The Arthur Adkins papers document Adkins’ academic career from 1950-1996. The papers document his career as a student at Oxford University, a faculty member in the Classics department at the University of Chicago, and his research and writings on Ancient Greece. It also includes particularly extensive material on his participation in establishing the Committee on the Ancient Mediterranean World (CAMW) at the University of Chicago. The collection contains correspondence, reprints, manuscripts, notebooks, administrative files, and course syllabi, notes and exams.
The collection has been processed and divided into six series: I. Correspondence, II. Subject Files, III. Academics, IV Research, V. Writings, VI. Restricted. The series divisions reflect the general original order of the collection but are reoriented to emphasize particularly prominent aspects of Adkins’s academic career.

Series 1, Correspondence, contains academic correspondence exchanged between Adkins and academic institutions concerning potential faculty positions and recommendations. There are also exchanges regarding Adkins’ participation in conferences and symposia and requesting his presence as a guest lecturer. Finally, there are correspondence between Adkins and his students concerning theses, dissertations, and coursework.

Series 2, Subject Files, contains an assortment of materials such as a lengthy proposal, including project description and proposed budget, for an NEH grant to support the Thesaurus Linguae Graecae. There is also a sizeable memo explaining easy computer use for and within the Humanities departments. Included in this series are a collection of index cards with undated notes on a variety of Greek topics.

Series 3, Academics, is divided into three subseries. These are 1. Oxford, 2. University of Chicago, 3. Other. Subseries 1 includes Adkins’s notes as a student at Oxford. Many of these contain background research for his book Poetic Craft and the Early Greek Elegists, published in 1985. Subseries 2 includes curriculum and program plans along with committee and faculty meetings having to do with the CAMW. In this subseries there are also teaching materials including course outlines, syllabi, exams, notes, and resources for Classics and Western Civilizations courses. A number of the papers in this subseries deal with administrative issues. Subseries 3 contains documents pertaining to Adkins academic work at institutions aside from Oxford and the University of Chicago and including Cornell University and the University of Reading. These include plans for a course on Classics and Technology, reprints of literature to be taught, course outlines, and administrative requirements.

Series 4, Research, contains research consisting primarily of document reprints, Xeroxed articles, and notes. There are also bibliographic listings for a number of prominent classical writers such as Aristoteles, Plato, and Homer.

Series 5, Writings, contains Adkins’ manuscripts with notes and edits written onto them. There are also a number of final copies of published essays. Included is some research and notes pertaining to specific pieces of writing.

Series 6, Restricted, consists of restricted materials having to do with administrative and student materials.
Related Resources
The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/select.html

Subject Headings
• Adkins, A. W. H. (Arthur W. H.)
• Redfield, James W.
• University of Oxford
• University of Chicago. Dept. of Classics
• University of Chicago, Committee on the Ancient Mediterranean World
• Classics

INVENTORY

Series I: Correspondence

Box 1
Folder 1
  Correspondence 1967-1976

Box 1
Folder 2
  Correspondence 1967-1976

Box 1
Folder 3
  Correspondence, 1975-1980

Box 1
Folder 4
  Correspondence, 1988-1992

Box 1
Folder 5
  Correspondence and Assorted Notes, 1969-1979

Series II: Subject Files

Box 1
Folder 6
  Humanities Computer, 1987

Box 1
Folder 7
  Greek Elegy, 1967

Box 1
Folder 8
  Thesaurus Lingue Graecae NEH Grant Request, 1979, Binder

Box 1
Folder 9
  Dario Sabbatucci, Saggio sul misticismo Greco, 1965, Book
Box 2
Notecards

Series III: Academic

Subseries 1: Oxford

Box 3
Folder 1
AHW Adkins Oxford Student Notes 1, 1950-1952
Box 3
Folder 2
AHW Adkins Oxford Student Notes 2, 1950-1952
Box 3
Folder 3
AHW Adkins Oxford Student Notes 3 pt. 1, 1950-1952
Box 3
Folder 4
AHW Adkins Oxford Student Notes 3 pt. 2, 1950-1952
Box 3
Folder 5
AHW Adkins Oxford Student Notes 4 pt. 1, 1950-1952
Box 3
Folder 6
AHW Adkins Oxford Student Notes 4 pt. 2, 1950-1952

Subseries 2: University of Chicago

Box 3
Folder 7
CAMW-Founding Greek Prospect, 1977-1978
Box 3
Folder 8
CAMW-Students/AdHoc Programs, 1978-1981
Box 3
Folder 9
CAMW Curriculum, 1979
Box 3
Folder 10
CAMW Curriculum, 1978-1979
Box 4
Folder 1
CAMW Curriculum, 1977-1981
Box 4
Folder 2
CAMW Course Notes, 1982
Box 4
Folder 3
CAMW Degree Requirements, 1979-1995
Box 4
Folder 4
CAMW Time Schedules and Course Summaries, 1979-1990
Box 4
Folder 5
CAMW Philosophy Workshop Proposal, 1978-1979
Box 4
Folder 6
CAMW Joint Programs-NELC, 1978-1979
Box 4
Folder 7
CAMW Joint Programs-Philosophy, 1983-1995
Box 4
Folder 8
Philosophy Faculty and Time Schedules, 1975-1995
Box 4
Folder 9
Committee Meetings, 1976-1982
Box 4
Folder 10
CAMW Committee Meetings, 1979
Box 4
Folder 11
CAMW Faculty, 1979
Box 4
Folder 12
CAMW Brochure, Undated
Box 4
Folder 13
Course Exams, 1974-1984
Box 4
Folder 14
Course Outlines and Exams, 1979-1984
Box 4
Folder 15
Hellenistic Civilizations Teaching Materials, 1981
Box 4
Folder 16
Greek Ethics and Responsibility, Undated
Box 4
Folder 17
Classics Minutes, 1974-1978
Box 5
Folder 1
Classics Administration, 1980-1995
Box 5
Folder 2
   Classics Administration, 1974-1979
Box 5
Folder 3
   Classics Administration/Dean’s Report, 1975-1980
Box 5
Folder 4
   Western Civilizations/Administrative Changes, 1979-1984
Box 5
Folder 5
   Western Civilizations SR Revision, 1974-1983
Box 5
Folder 6
   Western Civilizations Teaching Materials, 1977-1981
Box 5
Folder 7
   Western Civilizations Teaching Materials, 1981-1985
Box 5
Folder 8
   History Teaching Materials, 1982-1985
Box 5
Folder 9
   Humanities Open House, 1980

Subseries 3: Other
Box 5
Folder 10
   University of Reading Administration, 1971-1974
Box 6
Folder 1
   University of Reading Administrative, 1966
Box 6
Folder 2
   University of Reading Latin, Undated
Box 6
Folder 3
   Language Teaching Materials, Undated
Box 6
Folder 4
   Greek Meter, Undated
Box 6
Folder 5
   Greek Teaching Materials, Undated
Box 6
Folder 6
Homer Teaching Materials, Undated
Box 6
Folder 7
  University of Reading, Plato and Aristotle, Undated
Box 6
Folder 8
  Values, Undated
Box 6
Folder 9
  University of Reading, Classics and Technology, Undated
Box 6
Folder 10
  University of Reading, Classics and Technology, Undated
Box 6
Folder 11
  University of Reading, Classics and Technology, Undated
Box 6
Folder 12
  University of Reading, Classics and Technology, Undated
Box 6
Folder 13
  Teaching Materials, 1972
Box 6
Folder 14
  Cornell University, From Socrates to Aristotle, 1969-1970
Box 6
Folder 15
  NEH Seminars, 1985
Box 6
Folder 16
  NEH Seminar Book

Series IV: Research

Box 7
Folder 1
  AWH Adkins (Poetic Craft?), Undated
Box 7
Folder 2
  AWH Adkins (Basis for Poetic Craft?), Undated
Box 7
Folder 3
  AWH Adkins (Basis for Poetic Craft?), Undated
Box 7
Folder 4
  AWH Adkins (Basis for Poetic Craft?), Undated
Folder 5
AWH Adkins (Basis for Poetic Craft?), Undated
Box 7
Folder 6
AWH Adkins (Basis for Poetic Craft?), Undated
Box 7
Folder 7
AWH Adkins (Poetic Craft? MS) pt. 1, Undated
Box 7
Folder 8
AWH Adkins (Poetic Craft? MS) pt. 2, Undated
Box 7
Folder 9
AWH Adkins (Poetic Craft? MS) pt. 3, Undated
Box 7
Folder 10
AWH Adkins (Poetic Craft? MS) pt. 4, Undated
Box 7
Folder 11
AWH Adkins (Background for Poetic Craft) pt. 1, Undated
Box 7
Folder 12
AWH Adkins (Background for Poetic Craft) pt. 2, Undated
Box 8
Folder 1
AWH Adkins (Background for Poetic Craft) pt. 3, Undated
Box 8
Folder 2
Greek Prose Notebook, Undated
Box 8
Folder 3
Stoics Notebook, Undated
Box 8
Folder 4
Ethics Notebook, Undated
Box 8
Folder 5
Augustine Notebook, Undated
Box 8
Folder 6
Henry V Notebook, Undated
Box 8
Folder 7
Values and Society Notebook, Undated
Box 8
Folder 8
Box 10
Folder 3
Plato, Bibliographic References, 1981-1984

Box 10
Folder 4
Plato, Bibliographic References, 1985-1990

Box 10
Folder 5
Hesiod, Undated

Box 10
Folder 6
Thucydides, 1960-1969

Box 10
Folder 7

Box 10
Folder 8
Polypragmosune, 1976

Box 10
Folder 9
Collected Examples, Phusis and Psuche, Undated

Box 11
Folder 1
Collected Examples, Phusis and Psuche, Undated

Box 11
Folder 2
Collected Examples, Phusis and Psuche, Undated

Box 11
Folder 3
Collected Examples, Phusis and Psuche, Undated

Box 11
Folder 4
Collected Notes, 1996

Series V: Writings

Box 11
Folder 5
Poetic Craft Typescript, Undated

Box 11
Folder 6
Poetic Craft Typescript, Undated

Box 11
Folder 7
Poetic Craft Typescript, Undated

Box 11
Folder 8
Box 12
Folder 9
  From the Many to the One, Undated
Box 12
Folder 10
  From the Many to the One, Undated
Box 12
Folder 11
  From the Many to the One, Undated
Box 12
Folder 12
  The Greeks and Us, Proofs, 1996
Box 13
Folder 11
  Merit and Responsibility Notes, Undated
Box 13
Folder 2
  Merit and Responsibility Notes, Undated
Box 13
Folder 3
  Merit and Responsibility Notes, Undated
Box 13
Folder 4
  Merit and Responsibility Notes, Undated
Box 13
Folder 5
  Merit and Responsibility Notes, Undated
Box 13
Folder 6
  The Speech of Lysia, 1993
Box 13
Folder 7
  Transliterated Texts Project 1971
Box 13
Folder 8
  Homeric Ethics, Undated
Box 13
Folder 9
  Homeric Ethics, Undated
Box 13
Folder 10
  Homeric Ethics, Undated
Box 14
Folder 1
  Homeric Ethics, Undated
Box 14
Folder 2
   Essays, 1960-1988

Series VI: Restricted

Box 15
Folder 1
   CAMW-Administrative, 1983-1994, restricted until 2024

Box 15
Folder 2
   CAMW Students, 1979-1993, restricted until 2073

Box 15
Folder 3
   Classics Minutes, 1978-1995, restricted until 2025

Box 15
Folder 4
   Philosophy Department, 1979-1988, restricted until 2018