

## Finding Aid to the Linda A. Hughes Papers, 1976-2005

### Summary Information

**Title:** Linda A. Hughes papers

**Creator:** Linda A. Hughes

**ID:** 113.1893

**Date:** 1976-2005 (inclusive); 1980-1989 (bulk)

**Extent:** 1 linear foot

**Language:** The materials in this collection are in English.

**Abstract:** The Linda A. Hughes papers contain manuscripts, research materials, presentation materials, observations, interviews, correspondence and notes. The materials range from Hughes's time in graduate school through her professional career. The bulk of the materials in this collection are dated between 1980 and 1989.

**Repository:**

Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play at The Strong  
One Manhattan Square  
Rochester, New York 14607  
585.263.2700  
library@museumofplay.org

### Administrative Information

**Conditions Governing Use:** This collection is open for research use by staff of The Strong and by users of its library and archives. Though the donor has not transferred intellectual property rights (including, but not limited to any copyright, trademark, and associated rights therein) to The Strong, she has given permission for The Strong to make copies in all media for museum, educational, and research purposes.

**Custodial History:** The Linda A. Hughes papers were donated to The Strong on April 2013 as a gift from Linda A. Hughes. The papers were received in one box and accessioned by The Strong under Object ID 113.1893.

**Preferred citation for publication:** Linda A. Hughes papers, Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play at The Strong

**Processed by:** Kelli Emler, July-August 2015

### Controlled Access Terms

**Personal Names**

- Hughes, Linda A.
- Sutton-Smith, Brian

**Corporate Names**

- American Educational Research Association
- American Folklore Society
- Association for the Study of Play
- Ethnography Forum
- Jean Piaget Society
- Journal of American Folklore

- Society for Research in Child Development
- TASP
- University of Pennsylvania. Department of Folklore and Folklife

**Subjects**

- Child psychology
- Folklore and children
- Folklore--Methodology
- Foursquare (Game)
- Games
- Gender
- Play
- Play--Research
- Play--Social Aspects
- Universities and colleges--Graduate work

**Biographical Note**

Linda A. Hughes is an American play scholar who focused her research on children's games, notably the game of foursquare. Hughes studied under and later worked alongside Brian Sutton-Smith.

Hughes received her Bachelor's degree in German and Education in 1968 from C. W. Post College in Greenvale, New York. For her Master's thesis at Cooperstown, Hughes concentrated on play and games, observing and interviewing children for her "Cooperstown Study;" she received her Master's degree in American Folk Culture in 1976. Hughes then continued her education at the University of Pennsylvania, where she was accepted into the PhD program under the tutelage of Dr. Brian Sutton-Smith. There she continued to research children's behavior, gaming, gender, and relationships. In 1983, she received her PhD in Interdisciplinary Studies in Human Development, with a dissertation titled *Beyond the Rules of the Game: Girls' Gaming at a Friends' School*.

Sutton-Smith and Hughes presented together at conferences and collaborated on research and articles. Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, Hughes attended major educational conferences all over the United States to present her work on children's gaming and play. She held teaching positions at the University of Pennsylvania, West Chester University, the University of Delaware, and Millersville University, before developing the Delaware Alternative Routes to Certification Program at the University of Delaware. Hughes continues to be involved in teacher education and various professional organizations.

**Collection Scope and Content Note**

The Linda A. Hughes papers are a collection of manuscripts, research notes, data, interviews, correspondence, published papers, and her work while in her Masters and PhD programs. The collection also includes photo slides, unpublished papers, presentation materials, and research collaborations with Brian Sutton-Smith. Hughes's research looked at the game of foursquare and how children play the game, as well as gender differences and behaviors of players. Linda Hughes's materials deciphered the "unofficial" rules created by children playing the game. The bulk of materials in this collection are dated between 1980 and 1989.

The Linda A. Hughes papers have been arranged into five series. Series IV has been divided into a sub-series. This collection is housed in three archival document boxes.

**System of Arrangement**

Series I: Published papers, 1983-2005

Series II: Conference presentations, 1977-1996

Series III: Unpublished papers, 1979-1998

Series IV: Children's game research, 1976-1981

    Subseries A: Interviews and observations on foursquare

    Subseries B: Foursquare presentations materials

    Subseries C: Cooperstown study and data

Series V: Dissertation materials, 1983

## Contents List

### Series I: Published papers, 1983-2005

**Scope and Content Note:** This series houses published articles written by Linda A. Hughes. This collection also houses related correspondence, notes and author reviews. Topics for the papers include child behavior, competition, foursquare, girls and games, and gaming.

#### Box 1

- Folder 1 “Beyond the Rules of the Game: Why are Rooie Rules Nice?” Linda A. Hughes, article to appear in *The World of Play*, 1983, 2005
- Folder 2 “But that’s Not Really Mean: Competing in a Cooperative Model,” Linda A. Hughes, article to appear in *Sex Roles Journal*, 1988
- Folder 3 “Foursquare: A Glossary and Native Taxonomy of Game Rules,” Linda A. Hughes, article to appear in *Play and Culture Journal*, 1989, 1991
- Folder 4 “You Have to do it With Style: Girl’s Games and Gaming,” Linda A. Hughes, appearing in, *Feminist Theory and the Study of Folklore*, 1993
- Folder 5 “Children’s Games and Gaming,” Linda A. Hughes, appearing in *Children’s Folklore: A Source Book*, 1995
- Folder 6 “Games,” Linda A. Hughes, appearing in *American Folklore: An Encyclopedia*, 1993-1996
- Folder 7 “Children’s Games,” Linda A. Hughes, appearing in *Children’s Literature Association Quarterly*, 1981

### Series II: Conference Presentations, 1977-1996

**Scope and Content Note:** This series contains conference materials, notes, articles, correspondence, and conference details. All of the articles in this series were presented by Hughes at professional conferences. The conferences are grouped together based on organization name. Topics for the conferences are children’s games, foursquare, child behavior, the study of games and rules.

#### Box 1

- Folder 8 Conference and Correspondence Materials for the American Folklore Society, (AFS) and the *Journal of American Folklore*, 1977, 1980, 1982, 1986, 1987
- Folder 9 Conference and Correspondence Material for The Association for the Anthropological Study of Play, (TAASP) 1981, 1983, 1985, 1988
- Folder 10 Conference Materials for The Association for the Anthropological Study of Play, (TAASP) “Games and the Construction of Social Order,” “The Study of Children’s Gaming,” Linda A. Hughes, 1991, 1995
- Folder 11 Conference Materials for Society for Research in Child Development, (SCRD) “When Kids Don’t Fight: Issues in the Study of Conflict as Social Process,” Linda A. Hughes, 1989
- Folder 12 Conference and Correspondence Materials for Jean Piaget Society, “Games, Rules and Domain of Social Reasoning,” Linda A. Hughes, 1989
- Folder 13 Conference Materials for Ethnography in Education Forum, “It’s not whether you win or lose, it’s how you play the game,” Linda A. Hughes, 1995

- Folder 14 Conference Materials for American Educational Research Association (AERA)  
“Whose Community? Whose Rules?” Linda A. Hughes, 1995-1996

**Series III: Unpublished papers, 1979-1998**

**Scope and Content Note:** This series holds unpublished articles and essays written by Hughes. Folders also contain related correspondence and unpublished articles. Topics for this series are foursquare and gender differences.

**Box 1**

- Folder 15 “Defense,” Linda A. Hughes, 1983  
Folder 16 “Games and Gender,” Linda A. Hughes [to be published in *Childhood Encyclopedia*], 1998  
Folder 17 “Foursquare: An Initial Report on Fieldwork,” Linda A. Hughes, 1979  
Folder 18 “Integrative Essay,” Linda A. Hughes, 1981  
Folder 19 Papers and correspondence for Erving Goffman course, Anthropology 666,  
“Postural/ Orientational Patterns in the Game of Foursquare,” and “Rules for Rules in the Game of Foursquare,” Linda A. Hughes, 1980

**Series IV: Children’s game research, 1976-1981****Subseries A: Interviews and observations on foursquare**

**Scope and Content Note:** This subseries contains game research conducted by Hughes. In this series there are interviews, observations, notes, diagrams and photos. Topics for this series are foursquare, child behavior and rules.

**Box 2**

- Folder 1 Interviews, observations, diagrams, and notes on foursquare, Linda A. Hughes, 1979-1981  
Folder 2 Interviews, observations, diagrams, notes, and photos on foursquare, Linda A. Hughes, 1979-1981

**Subseries B: Foursquare presentation materials**

**Scope and Content Note:** This subseries houses foursquare presentation materials, diagrams and over head projections. Topics include foursquare set-up, rules, and meanings of different rules.

**Box 2**

- Folder 3 Foursquare presentation materials, diagrams, and overhead projections, n.d.

**Subseries C: Cooperstown Study and Data**

**Scope and Content Note:** This subseries houses information on the Cooperstown Study conducted by Hughes. This series holds notes, tape transcripts, interviews, graphs, drawings, data sheets, research application/proposal and Hughes's Master's thesis. Topics include children's games, rules, and foursquare.

**Box 2**

Folder 4 Cooperstown Study and Data - Notes, tape transcripts, interviews, graphs, and drawings, 1976

Folder 5 Cooperstown Study and Data - "A Survey of Child Lore in Cooperstown, New York," Linda A. Hughes, 1976. Application and Proposal for Research Project, data sheets, notes, and child daily logs. 1976 (Master's Thesis.)

**Box 3**

Folder 1 Cooperstown Study and Data - Questionnaires, data print-outs, notes, and data sheets, 1976

**Series V: Dissertation materials, 1983**

**Scope and Content Note:** This series holds two copies of Hughes's dissertation. Topics include rules, games, child behavior and children playing together.

**Box 3**

Folder 2 "Beyond the Rules of the Game: Girl's Gaming at a Friend's School," Linda A. Hughes, paper was presented to the Graduate Faculties of the University of Pennsylvania in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, 1983 [copy 1]

Folder 3 "Beyond the Rules of the Game: Girl's Gaming at a Friend's School," Linda A. Hughes, paper was presented to the Graduate Faculties of the University of Pennsylvania in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, 1983 [copy 2]