Constance Reid
Courant
in Göttingen and New York
The Story of an Improbable Mathematician

There was a golden time when the small German town of Göttingen was for mathematicians what Paris was for artists, and nineteen-year-old Richard Courant fell immediately under its spell. He became a well-known mathematician, teacher, writer and editor, organizer and administrator; but everything he did professionally was always influenced by his youthful experience in Göttingen. He also put his own highly individual stamp on the scientific tradition which it represented for him. When, in 1933, he was dismissed by the Nazis from his position as director of the internationally famous Mathematics Institute of Göttingen, he emigrated to the United States and devoted himself to creating in that country a stimulating scientific center such as the one he had known in his youth in Göttingen. Today, the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences in New York City is a visible symbol of the success of his efforts.

Constance Reid, the author of a well received biography of Hilbert, had a number of conversations with Richard Courant, then Professor Emeritus at the Mathematics Department of New York University, prior to his death in 1972. These conversations, his letters, diaries, and testimonies from many of Courant's friends and colleagues form the basis for **Courant In Göttingen and New York.**

Springer Books by Courant:

R. Courant: **Dirichlet's Principle, Conformal Mapping, and Minimal Surfaces**
With an Appendix by M. Schiffer
Reprint of the 1st Edition, Interscience Publishers New York 1950

R. Courant: **Vorlesungen über Differential- und Integralrechnung**
Band 1: Funktionen einer Veränderlichen
Band 2: Funktionen mehrerer Veränderlichen

R. Courant, K.O. Friedrichs: **Supersonic Flow and Shock Waves**
(Applied Mathematical Sciences, Vol. 21)

R. Courant, D. Hilbert: **Methoden der Mathematischen Physik 1**
(Heidelberger Taschenbücher, Band 30)

R. Courant, D. Hilbert: **Methoden der Mathematischen Physik 2**
(Heidelberger Taschenbücher, Band 31)

R. Courant, H. Robbins: **Was ist Mathematik?**

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