Collection Development Policy for Philosophy

The collection development policy for Philosophy guides the development and management of the library’s Philosophy materials collection. This policy is for the use of the Philosophy subject liaison and the library’s users. The policy will be updated as needed. Faculty and students are encouraged to provide recommendations for library materials.

GENERAL PURPOSE OF THE COLLECTION

The Philosophy Collection supports the educational needs of teaching faculty and students at the college. The primary purpose of the collection is to support the curricula in Philosophy, which include History of Philosophy, Introduction to Logic, Ethics, and Philosophy of Religion.

The Philosophy collection is housed in the Magnolia Library and is incorporated into the circulating, reference, and periodical collections. The collection primarily reflects the interests of the Philosophy department in providing thorough introductory coursework in the field of Philosophy.

SCOPE OF COVERAGE

1. Readership level: advanced high school, undergraduate

2. Languages collected (primary and selective) or excluded: English, basic publications in Spanish and French as requested by the department and/or the Spanish and French departments

3. Geographical areas covered by the collections in terms of intellectual content, publication sources, or both, and specific areas excluded, as appropriate: No area of the world is excluded from consideration; however, the collection focuses primarily on materials that support current course offerings

4. Chronological periods covered by the collection in terms of intellectual content, movements or schools, and specific periods excluded, as appropriate: The collection represents a broad spectrum of works covering ancient to modern philosophy, with the primary purpose of supporting coursework and student research.

5. Chronological periods collected in terms of publication dates: All chronological areas are included.

GENERAL SUBJECT BOUNDARIES
The subject scope of this collection is determined by the Library of Congress classifications:

- **B** – Philosophy
- **BC** – Logic
- **BD** – Speculative philosophy
- **BH** – Aesthetics
- **BJ** – Ethics
- **BL** – Religions. Mythology. Rationalism
- **BM** – Judaism
- **BP** – Islam. Bahaism. Theosophy, etc.
- **BQ** – Buddhism
- **BR** – Christianity
- **BS** – The Bible
- **BT** – Doctrinal Theology
- **BV** – Practical Theology
- **BX** – Christian Denominations
- **JA** – Philosophy (General)
- **JC** – Political theory

**RELATED SUBJECTS AND INTERDISCIPLINARY RELATIONSHIPS**

The following topics fall within the purview of the following subject selectors:

**History:** The History subject liaison supplements the Philosophy collection in the areas of Philosophical History.

**Political Science:** The Political Science subject liaison supplements the Philosophy collection in the area of individual philosophers working in political theory.

**TYPES OF MATERIALS**

**Books**
Books, periodicals, and reference works, including encyclopedias, biographical and subject-specific dictionaries, handbooks, and almanacs.

Serials/Series

Subscriptions primarily to English-language journals and monthly magazines in Philosophy.

Reference Materials

Up-to-date English-language encyclopedias, dictionaries, bibliographies, and research guides

Electronic Resources

Selected specialized indexing, abstracting, full text, and primary resources in Philosophy primarily to support the college’s curriculum

Videos/DVDs

Acquisition is primarily curriculum-based as requested by faculty to support instruction. Some videos of wide interest (such as PBS programs) purchased to enhance the general Philosophy collection. Preferred medium is now DVD (if available) over videocassette.

Exclusions

Textbooks, foreign-language dissertations, single or discrete issues of periodicals, vanity press publications, microforms, microfilm, and 16mm or 35mm films.