Collection Development Policy for Political Science

The collection development policy for Political Science guides the development and management of the library’s Political Science materials collection. This policy is for the use of the Political Science 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 Political Science 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 Political Science, which include American Politics and Law, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory.

The Political Science 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 Political Science department in providing thorough introductory coursework in the field of Political Science.

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 emphasizes current material, 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:
J – General legislative and executive papers
JA – Political Science (General)
JC – Political theory
JF – Political institutions and public administration
JJ – Political institutions and public administration (North America)
JK – Political institutions and public administration (United States)
JL – Political institutions and public administration (Canada, Latin America, etc.)
JN – Political institutions and public administration (Europe)
JQ – Political institutions and public administration (Asia, Africa, Australia, Pacific Area, etc.)
JS – Local Government. Municipal government
JV – Colonies and colonization. Emigration and immigration. International migration
JX – International law, see JZ and KZ (obsolete)
JZ – International relations

RELATED SUBJECTS AND INTERDISCIPLINARY RELATIONSHIPS

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

History: The History subject liaison supplements the Political Science collection in the areas of United States and international politics.

Philosophy: The Philosophy subject liaison supplements the Political Science 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 Political Science.

**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 Political Science 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 Political Science 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.