Northwestern University Library
Collection Development Policy Statement

Jewish Studies
by Rochelle S. Elstein
March 16, 1999

I. Brief overview of the collection
   A. History of the collection
   B. Broad subject areas emphasized or de-emphasized
      Hebrew bible, talmud and midrash, philosophy, history, Holocaust studies, Hebrew language, and
      Jewish literature in translation.

II. Purpose or objectives
   Exclusively an undergraduate collection, except for some titles required for faculty research. A minor
   in Jewish Studies offered, but the collection is also used by patrons in religion, history and philosophy.

III. Library unit or title of the selector responsible for this collection
   Bibliographer for Art & Art History, Communications, Dance, Jewish Studies,
   Journalism, Performance Studies, Radio/TV/Film, Religion, and Theatre

IV. Scope of the subject coverage
   A. Language
      English, some western European material, little in Hebrew, no Yiddish
   B. Geographical scope
      Unlimited
   C. Chronological scope
      Unlimited
   D. Publication dates collected
      Current publications
   E. Formats and genres
      1. Inclusions
         Books, serials and continuations, CD-ROM’s, videotapes, electronic databases and
         microforms.
      2. Exclusions
         Dissertations, textbooks, popular titles, and audiotapes.

V. Acquisitions procedures affecting collection policies
   A. Standing Orders
      Serial subscriptions: 57
      Monographic series: 4
   B. Approval plans and blanket orders
      Israel, U.S., U.K., Canada, France, Italy, Germany, Spa
   C. Gifts and exchanges
      Appropriate materials not duplicated in the collection are accepted with the caveat that they might
      not be added to our holdings. This is not a major source for growth.
      There is no exchange program.
VI. Duplication with other NU library units
There is a very little duplication with the Law and Medical Libraries (Jewish law and medical ethics) and with Core which buys second copies of basic titles for undergraduates.

VII. Expensive purchases
Special funding may be available from the Library Board of Governors, foundation grants, money contributed from the Assistant University Librarian’s funds, endowed funds, gift funds, or joint purchases.

VIII. Interdisciplinary collections
None

IX. Purchases with endowed funds
General Judaica – Segal Fund
Ruttenberg Fund
Solomon Fund

X. Cooperation with other libraries
A. Other resources, including local, regional or national libraries
The Asher Judaica Library of the Spertus Institute complements our collection of serials, and supplies us with a periodic acquisitions list of books.
We have full reciprocity of borrowing with the University of Chicago which has had a Divinity School and depth in the ancient Near East since 1893, and a Program in Jewish Studies since the mid-1980s. We do not duplicate items that are rare or unusually expensive.
The United Library, serving our two Protestant seminary neighbors, has a small collection of Near Eastern history and Judaism, especially early Jewish-Christian history.
B. Consortia
We have some input into the microforms that are collected by the Center for Research Libraries.

XI. Policies for purchasing journal article reprints or electronic files on demand
Not applicable

XII. Other factor of local importance
Proximity to the libraries of the Spertus Institute and the Hebrew Theological College.

XIII. Collection levels
Subjects Level
Judaism 2F
History—Jewish 2/3W