

Northwestern University Library Collection Development Policy Statement

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I. Brief overview of the collection

- A. *History of the collection*
Not applicable.
- B. *Broad subject areas emphasized or de-emphasized*
Political science, international studies.
- C. *Collection locations*
Main Library.

II. Purpose or objectives

The goal is to support teaching and research through the PHD level and research by the faculty. Courses are organized in the following categories: research methodology (formal modeling, statistics, computer methods); US politics and government (political parties, elections and voting, administrative and legislative process); international politics (international relations, foreign policy); law and politics (US constitutional law, US legal system, law and politics); comparative politics (political systems, conflict, nationalism, area studies); political thought (history of political thought, ideologies, American political thought); public policy and political economy (policy processes, both US and abroad); urban politics (community politics).

III. Library unit or title of the selector responsible for this collection

Bibliographer for Anthropology, Sociology, Political Science, and Slavic Literature.

IV. Scope of the subject coverage

- A. *Language*
The emphasis is on English-language materials, but French, German, and Russian are purchased regularly and other European languages selectively. Publications in non-European languages are collected only at faculty request as relevant to the country of interest.
- B. *Geographical scope*
The scope is worldwide for both national and international politics.
- C. *Chronological scope*
The emphasis is on current political developments, but the past is always relevant.
- D. *Publication dates collected*
Most acquisitions are of current imprints, but retrospective materials are also purchased.
- E. *Formats and genres*
 - 1. *Inclusions*
All types of printed materials (original, reprints, and microform), electronic reference and full-text resources, and video recordings.
 - 2. *Exclusions*
None.

V. Acquisitions procedures affecting collection policies

- A. *Standing Orders*
Standing orders for journals and a more limited number of monographic (most monographs being acquired through the approval plans and firm orders).

B. Approval plans and blanket orders

Approval plans for the U S (the largest plan), Canada, United Kingdom, Germany, France Italy, Spain, Latin America, and Russia. No blanket order plans.

C. Gifts and exchanges

Gifts as received, primarily from local donors. No exchange programs.

VI. Duplication with other NU library units

Some overlap with the Law Library for human rights, government administration, legislative processes, and US legal and court system.

VII. Expensive purchases

Retrospective runs of journals and electronic resources.

VIII. Interdisciplinary collections

Other subject fields in the Main Library are also used for political science, especially: history for history of political thought and government; management for government administration; economics for political economy.

Other collections in the NU Library system are also used for political science: Herskovits Library of African Studies for African politics; Government Publications Department for US and international government documents as well as statistical resources and data services; Main Reference Department for reference publications and electronic resources; Mitchell Multimedia Center for documentary videos; Newspaper Collection for press coverage of political events; Law Library for US, foreign, and international law and some foreign relations.

IX. Purchases with endowed funds

Approximately 50% of acquisitions are made with endowed funds.

X. Cooperation with other libraries

A. Other resources, including local, regional or national libraries

Regenstein Library at the University of Chicago for publications from Eastern Europe, Latin America, Middle East, and Asia.

B. Consortia

CIC.

XI. Policies for purchasing journal article reprints or electronic files on demand

Not applicable.

XII. Other factor of local importance

Not applicable.

XIII. Collection levels

Research methodology (4)

US politics and government (4)

International politics (4)

Law and Politics

 US constitutional law (4)

 US legal system (NU Main Lib. 3, Law Lib. 4)

 Government and the courts (4)

 International law (2)

Comparative politics

 Africa (5)

 All others (4)

Political thought (4)

Public policy and political economy (4)

Urban politics (4)

< http://www.library.nwu.edu/collmgmt/socsci_slavic/polsci.html >