

Northwestern University Library Collection Development Policy Statement

Psychology by Leslie Bjorncrantz March 27, 1999

I. Brief overview of the collection

A. History of the collection

Not applicable

B. Broad subject areas emphasized or de-emphasized

The Psychology Department offers an undergraduate major in psychology. There is also an interdisciplinary major in cognitive science. Doctoral programs are offered in clinical psychology, cognitive psychology, personality psychology, psychobiology, and social psychology. In addition to primary emphasis on the subject areas covered by these academic programs, the library also collects on the research level in philosophy of psychology; methodology and research methods; history of psychology; mathematical psychology and computer applications; psychological testing; psychoanalytic theory; behaviorism; phenomenological and existential psychology; senses and sensation; perception; cognition; learning; environmental psychology; memory; creative processes; intelligence; psycholinguistics; motivation; emotion; sex differences; sex roles; sexual behavior; differential psychology; developmental psychology; and psychological pathology.

C. Collection locations

University Library

II. Purpose or objectives

The collections in psychology are selected to meet the teaching and research needs of students and faculty in the Psychology Department and in several other programs at Northwestern. Students and faculty in the School of Education and Social Policy, the Kellogg Graduate School of Management, the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Speech, the School of Journalism, the McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science, the School of Law, and the Medical School make use of library materials and services in psychology

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

Psychology Bibliographer, Collection Management Division

IV. Scope of the subject coverage

A. Language

Predominantly English; selective in Western European languages.

B. Geographical scope

Worldwide.

C. Chronological scope

No limitations.

D. Publication dates collected

Primarily current publications. Limited retrospective purchasing.

E. Formats and genres

1. Inclusions

Monographs

Periodicals, in print and electronic format, and access to periodical articles in full-text

Monographic series

Reports and proceedings of associations, conferences, congresses, institutions, societies, symposia, etc.

Reference works, in print and electronic formats, in cooperation with the

- Reference Department
Government publications, in print and electronic formats
2. Electronic formats: library purchase or fee-based access is selected when appropriate.
 - 3.
 4. *Exclusions*
Introductory college level textbooks
Antiquarian titles
Manuscripts
Non-NU dissertations
Psychological tests
Audiovisual materials, unless within the scope of the Mitchell Multimedia Center

V. *Acquisitions procedures affecting collection policies*

- A. *Standing Orders*
Selected standing orders for monographic series in psychology at the present time
- B. *Approval plans and blanket orders*
A major vendor supplies all U.S. university press titles in psychology according to the library's profile of subject interests. The vendor supplies all titles published by Lawrence Erlbaum. In addition, the vendor supplies notification slips for all titles from major U.S. publishers that fit NU Library's profile in psychology and related fields.
- C. *Gifts and exchanges*
The library welcomes gifts of books and other materials that are of exceptional quality, within the scope of the library's collecting activities, do not duplicate current holdings, and that enhance and support teaching and research at Northwestern.

VI. *Duplication with other NU library units*

Duplication is avoided as much as possible. An occasional title may be selected as a duplicate to a title in the Galter Health Sciences Library on the Chicago campus. The main library collection is also supplemented by holdings in the Science-Engineering Library.

VII. *Expensive purchases*

Expensive purchases will be considered on an individual basis in relation to the scope of the collection policy and to available funding.

VIII. *Interdisciplinary collections*

The interdisciplinary area of special interest is cognitive science. In addition to collections in psychology (especially cognitive psychology,) this field is supported by library collections in linguistics, artificial intelligence, philosophy, computer science, and neuroscience.

IX. *Purchases with endowed funds*

No endowments are available presently.

X. *Cooperation with other libraries*

- A. *Other resources, including local, regional or national libraries*
The Psychology Bibliographer consults frequently with the psychology subject specialists at the University of Chicago, the University of Illinois-Chicago, and the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana about expensive purchases, serial holdings, and cooperative projects.
- B. *Consortia*
See Introduction

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

Not applicable.

XII. Other factor of local importance

The psychology collections at the University of Chicago, the University of Illinois at Chicago, and the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana are of significant importance to researchers.

XIII. Collection levels

Conspectus subject categories Current collecting intensity and
language code

Psychology

4E