

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.
- A. *Collection locations*

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