

# **Film Collection**

## **I. General Statement of Collection Development Policy**

The Film Collection supports instruction and research for all academic areas. Selection of music is governed by a separate Music policy.

## **II. Description of the University Programs**

The use of film in the curriculum and in research is extremely broad, supporting a wide range of departments. The University has offered courses in film aesthetics, history, production and theory since the 1960s, and a Minor in Film Studies was formally recognized as a university program in 2004.

Courses from departments such as Art, Communication, Education, English, History, Humanities, Religion, French Studies, Spanish and Italian, and Sociology demonstrate the interdisciplinary approach to film study. The University began offering a Documentary Film Program in the fall semester 2010. This graduate-level program offers courses in writing, production and research, as well as documentary history and ethics.

## **III. Interdisciplinary Elements of Subject Area**

The Film Collection is entirely interdisciplinary. Resources from nearly every library materials purchasing fund may be spent on films. In addition, there is a limited special allocation managed by the Media Coordinator for films of general interest.

## **IV. Formats and Types of Materials**

The collection currently includes streaming videos, physical videos primarily on DVD, and some Blu-ray. For DVDs, PAL format will be purchased upon faculty request, but NTSC is strongly preferred. Some VHS is maintained as a legacy secondary format. Developing forms of media are evaluated for collection usefulness and added as appropriate.

Commercial streaming services (e.g. Netflix) generally exclude libraries as customers, with contracts designed for individuals. Streaming videos services that work with libraries contain primarily documentaries, but some popular commercial films are available and may be leased for a limited time period in support of the curriculum.

Videos in the Film Collection may not be used for events for which admission fees are charged. Public Performance Rights (PPR) may be acquired on a limited, case-by-case basis with demonstrated need.

## **V. Languages**

English is the most commonly collected language. However, works in other languages are well represented and are more readily available on DVD. Subtitles are preferred to dubbing.

## **VI. Geographic Areas**

The United States and Western Europe are emphasized. All areas of the world are included to support curriculum.

## **VII. Time Periods**

The primary emphasis of new film purchasing or leasing is any time period in support of the curriculum.

## **VIII. Dates of Publication**

Because of preservation issues, currently produced or re-issued films are the favored items. Older materials will be evaluated case-by-case.

## **IX. Deselection of Library Materials**

The continuous review of library materials is important as a means of maintaining a valuable library collection. The Z. Smith Reynolds Library has a deselection policy, and materials will be withdrawn from the collection in accordance with this policy.

## **X. Subject Areas and Level of Collecting Intensity**

All subject areas are represented in the interdisciplinary Film Collection. Feature, foreign, documentary, television, concert and performance videos will all be collected. Titles with notable artistic merit, historical importance, cultural relevance, literary content, and critical acclaim will be given preference.

Films acquired to support teaching and research also often include leisure-oriented, popular titles that are used for “home viewing” and may include titles suitable for children.

Works produced by Wake Forest University faculty and the students in the Documentary Film Program will be collected as comprehensively as possible.

*Updated September 2022*