

Politics and International Affairs

I. General Statement of Collection Development Policy

The Collection supports the study and research needs of faculty and undergraduate students in the Politics and International Affairs Department. The collection includes holdings in political theory, domestic (US) and international politics, comparative politics and related subjects relevant to the research and teaching interests of the faculty such as urban politics, racial politics, immigration policy, political communication, public policy and constitutional law.

II. Description of the University Program

The Politics and International Affairs curriculum includes divisional requirements in political theory, American politics, international politics and comparative politics. The department offers Bachelor's degrees.

III. Interdisciplinary Elements of Subject Area

Materials purchased with the library budget for Politics and International Affairs may also support various other departments as well as interdisciplinary programs or minors such as Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, German Studies, East Asian Studies, Russian and East European Studies, African Studies, American Ethnic Studies and Latin American Studies.

IV. Formats and Types of Materials

Print and ebooks along with journals and other periodicals are the primary materials purchased, but documentaries and other streaming media are also purchased, as are statistical products when they support the research and teaching of the faculty. Preference may be given to electronic format, depending upon such factors as cost, availability of secure archives and the needs of the program. Duplicative format collecting is avoided.

In consonance with the academic endeavors of the University community, the emphasis is on scholarly works, journals and other political periodicals. The following types of materials are collected:

Monographs – The library collects research and major trade monographs.

Reference – The Reference Collection supports the curriculum emphases of the various academic programs and the information needs of the Wake Forest community. Major reference materials such as bibliographies, dictionaries, encyclopedias, indices and abstracts are collected.

Serials – A serials collection constitutes an integral part of the library's research resources in the Social Sciences. The serials collection represents the historical and current requirements of the Politics and International Affairs Department and will continue to be developed as new courses are added. In addition to the major scholarly and professional journals, the collection includes more popular political periodicals such as The Economist, Time, etc. Funds are also available for a limited number of interdisciplinary journals.

Abstracts and Indexes – The library subscribes to a broad range of databases covering disciplines in the Social Science.

Proceedings – Proceedings or reports of conferences, symposia and international congresses are collected selectively.

Theses and dissertations – Dissertations and theses which have not been commercially published are rarely acquired, and then only as specific faculty or student interest warrants.

Textbooks and Anthologies – In general the library does not acquire textbooks adopted as required texts for any given courses nor textbook-style anthologies

Microforms – Microforms are purchased to fill in gaps in periodical holdings or in cases where the information is not available in electronic or print format.

Non-print materials – Videos, audio CDs and DVDs that support the curriculum are purchased and are housed in the Z. Smith Reynolds Library. Non-print format collecting is subject to change according to available presentation technology. Streaming video databases augment the collections of these resources.

V. Languages

The collection consists primarily of works in English although some important works in other languages are purchased when requested.

VI. Geographic Areas (Subject Approach)

Because the Politics and International Affairs Department covers global issues, the collection reflects this and covers all areas of the world.

VII. Time Periods (Subject Approach)

All time periods are collected but the emphasis is political developments of the last 50-100 years.

VIII. Dates of Publication

The collecting effort is directed primarily at current and recent scholarship. However, retrospective titles may be acquired in response to changes in the curriculum and other academic initiatives (new courses, minor and interdisciplinary programs), faculty research interests, and significant lacunae in the collection. Very selective retrospective purchasing may involve reprints, microform or electronic archives.

IX. Subject Area and Level of Collecting Intensity

Collecting intensity designations should reflect the Department's present and anticipated curriculum, and should be at levels that enable the Department to implement its academic program.

J	Official Documents	3
JA	Collections and General Works	3
JC	Political Theory	3
JF	Constitutional History and Administration	3
	Civil Rights	3
	Political Parties	3
JK	United States	3
JL	British America. Latin America.	3
	Mexico	3
	Venezuela	3
JN	Europe	3
JQ	Asia. Africa	3
JS	Local Government	3
	North Carolina	4
	Municipal Government	3
JV	Colonies and Colonization	2
JX	International Law	3
	International Relations	3
	Diplomacy	3
	Other Subjects of Interest	
	Politics and Mass Media	3
	Political Philosophy	3

X. Deselecting Library Materials

The continuous review of library materials is important as a means of maintaining an active library collection. Materials will be withdrawn from the collection in accordance with the Deselection policy.

Rosalind Tedford, Library Liaison, December 2014