SOCIOLOGY

I. General Statement of Collection Development Policy

The Collection supports the study and research needs of faculty, and undergraduate students in the Sociology Department. In developing the collection, the library liaison for Sociology will work with the department to stay informed with regard to new course proposals, First-Year Seminars, projects, and other course/research initiatives that may have an impact on the collection. In addition, the library liaison will maintain a familiarity of the courses offered by reviewing course descriptions in the undergraduate catalog, consulting sources such as the department’s website, and communicating with faculty in the department.

II. Description of the University Program

The Bachelor of Arts degree is conferred with a major in sociology. In addition to pursuing a regular major in sociology, the Sociology Department offers two optional concentrations for majors: Crime and Criminal Justice and Business and Society.

III. Interdisciplinary Elements of Subject Area

Materials purchased with the library budget for Sociology may also support various other departments in the social sciences. The subject areas of this collection are frequently related to history (social history, popular culture), philosophy, psychology, political science, economics, social work and education. Open discussions among faculty, department representative, and library liaison will help insure cooperative and coordinated collecting in these and other subject areas.

IV. Formats and Types of Materials

Print and electronic materials such as books and periodicals will be the most common acquisitions, but microforms and audiovisuals are considered and added as needed. 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.

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 Sociology Department and will continue to be developed as new courses are added. The collection includes the major scholarly and professional journals in the field. 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 Sciences..
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 – Video and audio materials that support the curriculum are purchased. 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. Foreign language material and the English translation will be acquired selectively. Purchase of important materials in the original language will be made as the budget permits.

VI. Geographic Areas (Subject Approach)

The primary focus is on the United States since the Chicago School has dominated American sociology from the beginning of this century. Sociology materials on social conditions will also be covered in the policies of history and political science. More recently interest in the continental (French, British, and German) schools of thought and research centers has emerged in the theoretical areas of sociology. In addition, Latin American, African and Asian sources are collected.

VII. Time Periods (Subject Approach)

The primary emphasis of the collection is on twentieth century materials, with purchases of significant nineteenth century works made whenever possible as the budget permits.

VIII. Dates of Publication

Emphasis is on acquiring current materials (since 1960). Selective retrospective purchasing will be carried out and may involve reprints or microform rather than the original format.

IX. Subject Area and Level of Collecting Intensity

H1-99 Social Sciences-General 3
HM1-299 Sociology-General and theoretical 3
HN3-980 Social history, social problems & social reform 4
HQ THE FAMILY. MARRIAGE. WOMAN 4
HQ12-449 Sexual life 4
HQ450-471 Erotica. Pornography 4
HQ503-1064 The family. Marriage. Home (including child study, eugenics, desertion, adultery, divorce, polygamy, the aged) 4
HQ1101-2030 Woman. Feminism. Women’s clubs 2
Other LC classes of interest to sociology

BF173-789 Psychology 1
D4901-7802 Employment, social security policy 2
E77-840 Race, Racism, Ethnics 3
HA29 Statistics 3 HB31-3700 Political economy 4
HC57-110 Economic conditions 4
HD31-38 Organizational behavior 3
RA395-770 Social aspects of health care, public health 3
RA798-971 Mental health areas 3

In addition to these LC classes, the following teaching/research areas are of particular interest:

Photography/Art/Architecture 3
Industrial Relations 3
Politics 2
Science and Technology Studies 4
Sociology of Higher Education (National and International) 3
Social Gerontology 4
Sociology of Aging 4
Deviant Behavior 4
Qualitative Methods 3
Visual Sociology 3
Sociology of Art 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.

*Hubert Womack Library Liaison, December 2014*