

**University of California, Merced Library
Collection Development Policy**

SCHOOL OF NATURAL SCIENCES

The UC Merced Library actively supports all aspects of the university's mission of teaching, research and public service. The library's mission is to provide access to and delivery of information resources to UC Merced students, faculty and staff. Although the Library will acquire information resources in any format as appropriate, resources in electronic format will be preferred. This principle may be modified in accordance with the teaching and research needs of particular disciplines. Primary collection development policies have been created at the school level. These are supplemented as necessary by policies formulated for specific subject areas and disciplines.

COLLECTION AREA

Undergraduate majors: applied mathematical sciences, biological sciences, chemistry, environmental systems science, physics

Graduate programs: applied mathematical sciences, chemistry and biochemistry, environmental systems, physics, quantitative and systems biology

GENERAL PURPOSE

The primary goal of the Natural Sciences collection development program is to support the current research and instructional needs of the undergraduate students, graduate students, postdoctoral associates and faculty in the School of Natural Sciences. Development of the collection also aims to cover areas of emerging interest that may be included in future research and instruction programs. The collection development program also serves the related interests of the faculty and students in the School of Engineering and the various interdisciplinary research institutes. Emphasis is on acquiring current, not historical, literature although this does not preclude the purchase of relevant literature in areas such as history of science, for example.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, MERCED PROGRAM

The School of Natural Sciences offers degree programs in both the natural and physical sciences. Currently the School of Natural Sciences offers undergraduate degrees in biological sciences, environmental systems science, applied mathematical sciences, chemistry and physics. In addition, there are interdisciplinary graduate programs in quantitative and systems biology, chemistry and biochemistry, physics, applied mathematical sciences and environmental systems. Although these graduate programs are covered in this policy, they also rely on faculty and resources of the School of Engineering.

GENERAL SUBJECT BOUNDARIES

Because of the interdisciplinary nature of much of the research and instruction in the School of Natural Sciences, relevant materials are found in a wide variety of Library of Congress classes. The major holdings in biology are in LC classes QH, QK, QL, QP and QR. Mathematics classes in QA with the exception of QA 75-QA 76.9 (computer science) and QA 801-QA 939 (analytical mechanics). Physics classes in QA 801-QA 939 and in QC1-QC 849.

Collections in environmental systems science support both the undergraduate major as well as the interdisciplinary research of the Sierra Nevada Research Institute. In addition to Q-QR, materials may fall into the following LC class numbers; however, none of these are solely for environmental systems science materials: BJ, G, GB, GC, GF, HC, NA, RA1190-RA1270, S, SB, SD, SH, SK, TD, TK, TP.

LANGUAGES

English is the principal collection language though no material is excluded because of language.

GEOGRAPHIC AREAS

No geographic areas are specifically excluded, although materials with a geographic focus on California, the Great Basin and the Sierra Nevada Mountains are emphasized. In general, the nature of the publication rather than its geographical origin determines its selection.

TYPES OF MATERIALS SELECTED

The collection includes monographs, serials, full text and A&I databases. Textbooks, except for advanced undergraduate and graduate textbooks in chemistry and physics, are not collected.

FORMATS OF MATERIALS SELECTED

Although both print and electronic monographs are collected, the emphasis is on electronic monographs. All journals are electronic; no print journal subscriptions are maintained, unless the journal is only available in print. Local subscriptions to journals are initiated in response to faculty requests; most journals are supplied through CDL-licensed packages. Microforms and flat maps are not collected, but individual items will be obtained as necessary. Other non-print formats, such as CD-ROM, DVD and Compact Disc are selected as appropriate. Material on VHS tape is reformatted to DVD.

COLLECTING INTENSITY

Collecting intensity needs to be understood in the context of being an integral part of the

largest university research library in the world. Information resources include locally acquired print and electronic books as well as electronic journals, databases and digital collections licensed by the California Digital Library on behalf of the University of California Libraries. Print monographs in current and proposed fields of natural and physical sciences in the LC classes listed below published by university and trade publishers are acquired at faculty request. Electronic books at equivalent levels are acquired through CDL-licensed packages and locally at faculty request. Additional electronic resources are available through membership in HathiTrust and the Center for Research Libraries (CRL). The collection is developed and maintained as a component of the collective electronic and print collections of the UC Libraries.

OTHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE

The UC Merced Library provides access to many electronic resources in support of teaching and research in natural and physical sciences. Information and links may be found on the Databases A-Z list on the library web site. The library also has access through Interlibrary Loan to the 38 million print volumes in the collective collection of the UC Libraries housed at the other nine UC campuses and at the two Regional Storage Facilities. Interlibrary Loan through OCLC provides access to print resources not held by the University of California. The CRL print collection is also available through Interlibrary Loan.

LC CLASS

BJ, G, GB, GC, GE, GF, HC, NA, Q, QA, QC, QD, QE, QH, QK, QL, QP, QR, RA1190-RA1270, S590, S900-S970, SB, SD, SH, SK, TA705-TA710, TD, TK, TN, TP

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