

## **Social Sciences Collection Development Policy**

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### **Purpose & Scope**

The purpose of the Social Sciences Collection Development Policy is to serve as a guiding document to collect materials to support instruction and research in the areas of Anthropology, Aviation, Black Studies, Criminal Justice, Education, Emergency Services, Gerontology, Latino/a Studies, Native American Studies, Political Science, Psychology, Public Administration, Social Work, Sociology, Women's and Gender Studies, as well as interdisciplinary research initiatives such as Social Science Research Commons (SSRC), Office of Latina/Latin American Studies (OLLAS), and The Leonard and Shirley Goldstein Center for Human Rights.

In collaboration with other subject librarians, the Social Sciences Librarian selects additions to and withdrawals from the collection. The collection development efforts are also facilitated by periodic outreach to library liaisons, faculty, staff, and students who recommend monographs, journals, and databases in light of their research agendas as well as general information needs of the campus community. The UNO Criss Library Interlibrary Loan (ILL) program fills the gaps in the collection through participation in consortium of other academic libraries to allow campus community members to request books, articles, and microfilm depending on the lending restrictions of the participating library.

### **Coverage & Materials**

The constantly shifting interdisciplinary landscape of social science research calls for the most current and up-to-date information to be available for researchers. Researchers primarily rely on peer-reviewed journals but the library actively collects both print and electronic books that synthesize areas of research, and databases that include streaming media, and dissertations and theses. Though the primary goal of the collection is to facilitate teaching and research in the social science disciplines, popular literature in the social sciences that advances the broader campus-wide initiatives, priorities, and understanding of key topics is also selectively collected.

The library recognizes the ease of access of digital resources for undergraduate and graduate online courses offered in various social science disciplines. However, print resources may be preferred in cases where electronic resources are not feasible due to license, incomplete content, and inferior usability. Relevance in scope and overlap with the curriculum and research agenda of the teaching faculty drives book purchases in electronic and print formats. Recent disciplinary trends, faculty recommendations, and published book reviews in established journals are used for selecting titles. Typically, one copy of a title is purchased. However, duplicates may be purchased on the request of faculty or students for wider accessibility. In case of electronic book purchases, institutional licenses with simultaneous multiple users are preferred. Consistent with the goal of supporting the teaching and research, print books are

periodically reviewed and considered for withdrawal based on criteria such as the usage statistics, availability in electronic format, and physical condition.

Academic peer-reviewed journals are extensively used in social science research at UNO. An ongoing priority list of journals is developed based on faculty requests, Interlibrary Loan statistics, and new academic programs. Library faculty routinely evaluates and prioritizes the journal titles based on multiple requests, impact factor, and interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary value.

In addition to traditional formats, the library recognizes the value of audiovisual content to support the teaching and research needs of various social science disciplines. Both practitioners and researchers in early childhood education, psychology, and social work rely heavily audiovisual content to draw important connections to theory and practice. The library continues to explore platforms and venues for providing access to quality audiovisual content to support the teaching and research needs of the campus community.

## **Subject Areas**

### ***Anthropology***

The curricula at UNO focuses on cultural and physical anthropology and their interaction across time--encompassing sub-disciplines of archeology, biological anthropology, linguistic anthropology, and socio-cultural anthropology. The common thread of examining different cultures through various theoretical frameworks along with methodological approaches of anthropological research drives the collection development efforts.

### ***Aviation***

The library collects material to support three concentrations offered by the Aviation Institute, in conjunction with the Division of Continuing Studies--Air Transport Administration with a focus on airport administration, airline operations, and government entities; Professional Flight focuses on professional pilot training, psychology, and behavior; and Unmanned Aircraft Systems focuses on management and operation of unmanned aircraft.

### ***Black Studies***

Black Studies collection highlights the critique and discussion of issues related to the Black experience in the United States--issues of communicating race relations, ethnicity, gender identity, law, psychology, and art through both historical and current perspectives. The collection emphasizes the political and social dimensions of revolutionary movements including Civil Rights movement, Black Lives Matter, and others that highlight Black history across time.

### ***Criminology and Criminal Justice***

Criminology and Criminal Justice collection reflects a variety of research areas including but not limited to criminology theory, juvenile delinquency and juvenile practice, public perceptions of

criminal justice policies, nature of criminal propensity, biosocial and psychological factors, policing, sexual assault, domestic violence, program evaluation, and careers in criminal justice.

### ***Emergency Management and Disaster Science***

The collection development efforts in Emergency Management focus on tribal emergency management, critical infrastructure, disaster preparedness, e-governance, and collaborative disaster management. Emphasis is also given to communication and developmental strategies in NGO-government relations in the context of disaster readiness and management.

### ***Gerontology***

To fully support the interdisciplinary nature of the undergraduate and graduate programs in Gerontology, the library collects materials on topics ranging from biosocial concerns, politics, mental health, law, hospice care, spiritual aspects, death, end of life planning, caregiving, intergenerational relationships, ageism, and other dimensions of aging.

### ***Latino/a Studies***

Latino/Latin American Studies encompasses the history, geopolitics, art, literature, language, culture, and identity through anthropological and sociological lens. The collection supports the growing interdisciplinary research on Latino/Latin American issues and populations within and across borders.

### ***Native American Studies***

Native American Studies collection includes perspectives on Native American culture, history, arts, values, lifeways, spirituality, social and political institutions, and other contemporary issues within the framework of the North American experience. Other focused aspects of the collection include Native American medicine, art, law, education, public administration, social work, and criminal justice.

### ***Political Science***

The areas of emphasis for Political Science collection includes American government, European politics, Latin American politics, East Asian politics, Middle East politics, Islam and politics, gender and politics, Intelligence and national security, US foreign policy, political theory, Constitutional law, environmental security, authoritarian regimes, conflict resolution, and Political Science research methodologies.

### ***Psychology***

The psychology collection is comprised of items that focus on research areas such as cognitive science, developmental psychology, forensic psychology, industrial and organizational psychology, mental health, social psychology, neuroscience, behavior and applied behavior analysis, and school psychology. This collection especially focuses on areas that are supported by student and faculty research such as positive psychology and wellbeing, quantitative data analysis, and industrial psychology.

### ***Public Administration***

The collection supports the six concentrations in Master of Public Administration (MPA) program at UNO--emergency management, healthcare administration, local government, nonprofit management, public management, and public policy. With specializations offered in Criminology and Criminal Justice, Information and Technology Management, and doctoral program in Public Administration, emphasis is given to recent trends and areas of research in public policy.

### ***Social Work***

Some of the key areas of the collection include child welfare, evidence-based practice, intervention development, adaptation and evaluation of programs, human service organizations, social work policy, mental health, suicide education, trauma, grief, LGBTQIA+ identities, aging, professional development as a social worker, authentic community engagement, and qualitative and quantitative research methods in social work.

### ***Sociology***

The areas of primary research in Sociology include medical sociology, sociology of families, global social inequality, organizational sociology, and social anthropology. With broad interdisciplinary connections with other social sciences, the collection also includes seminal titles in social epistemology and sociological theory.

### ***Women's and Gender Studies***

Women's and Gender Studies collection includes a variety of topics related to gender identity, major philosophical and social movements, crime and justice, work, health, communication, and sociology of gender through different theoretical perspectives.

## **College of Education**

The Education collection contains materials to support all subject areas housed in the College of Education. The research areas covered include but are not restricted to early childhood education, primary and secondary education, higher education, special education, school administration, Praxis preparation, speech-language pathology, physical education, library science, counseling, public health, athletic training, and biomechanics. This collection highlights new and existing programs and research areas that are supported by student and faculty interest such as inclusive early childhood education, adolescent speech and language development, educational leadership, programming in libraries, and behavioral interventions.

### ***Biomechanics***

This collection supports student and faculty research with materials from the disciplines that intersect within the field of biomechanics. This includes but is not limited to biology, physiology, anatomy, physics, mathematics, and chemistry. The collection highlights specific student and faculty interests in biomechanics such as rehabilitation, design of assistive devices, robotics, prosthetics, and applications in sports, sports medicine, and military performance.

### ***Counseling***

Materials for students and faculty researching counseling includes higher-level graduate and professional materials to support degrees in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, School Counseling, and Student Affairs that the department offers. The collection is focused on professional counseling work in a diverse range of settings, including mental health agencies, non-profits, hospitals, government agencies, public and private schools, and higher education settings.

### ***Educational Leadership***

Educational leadership programs focus on administrative certification for those in the field of education. Materials in this collection concentrate on building administration, special education leadership and teacher leadership. This collection also includes test preparation materials for the Praxis II – School Leadership and Superintendent Exams.

### ***Health & Kinesiology***

The department of Health & Kinesiology offers degrees at undergraduate and graduate levels. This collection includes a range of materials in order to support those in the department regardless of their experience within the field. Specific topic concentrations within the collection include but are not limited to athletic training, kinesiology, physical education teaching, coaching and pedagogy, public health, exercise science, health behavior, and promoting physical activity in a variety of populations.

### ***Special Education and Communication Disorders***

This collection aims to support those researching aspects of special education and communication disorders. Special education research areas that are focused on within the collection include but are not limited to American Sign Language and sign language interpreting, education of the deaf and hard of hearing, inclusive early childhood education, and elementary and secondary special education teacher education. Research areas in communication disorders that are focused on include speech-language pathology, adolescent speech and language development, early childhood interventions, and clinical materials.

### ***Teacher Education***

The Teacher Education offers programs leading to educator certification in a variety of areas. The collection aims to support this goal by providing materials concentrating on early childhood education, elementary education, middle grades education, secondary education, library science, literacy, and English as a second language and reading specialist research. This collection ranges from items for undergraduate to professional level materials. This collection includes juvenile and young adult books that support children and young adult literacy courses. This collection also feature test preparation materials for the Praxis Core and Praxis II subject specific exams.

## Interdisciplinary Research Initiatives

In addition to supporting the research and teaching in the above mentioned subject areas, the collection also supports the following campus initiatives.

### ***Center for Applied Psychological Services (CAPS)***

The Center for Applied Psychological Services, or CAPS, promotes community engagement and real life learning within the psychology department. CAPS provides research-based consulting services to local, public, and private organizations. Prominent research areas for those involved in CAPS include Industrial/Organizational Psychology, Social Psychology, School Psychology, and Developmental Psychology.

### ***Gender and Sexuality Resource Center***

Gender and Sexuality Resource Center promotes equity, access, and inclusion for all genders and sexuality through education, resources, advocacy, and activism. The center provides services for women, lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer spectrum, trans spectrum, intersex, asexual, non-straight, and gender non-conforming (LGBTQIA+) peoples, and survivors of interpersonal violence.

### ***Juvenile Justice Institute***

Established in 2002, the Juvenile Justice Institute (JJI) provides technical assistance and conducts program evaluations for state and local agencies, and private organizations in partnership with policymakers, practitioners, and criminal justice faculty. The institute encourages the development of future criminal justice professionals by providing students with unique educational and research opportunities.

### ***Leonard and Shirley Goldstein Center for Human Rights***

A nonpartisan, nonsectarian organization that promotes the understanding of human rights issues through teaching, research, creative activity, and community engagement. The Center is faculty governed, student centered, and community engaged. It is composed of over thirty affiliated faculty from five Colleges at UNO.

### ***Office of Latina/Latin American Studies (OLLAS)***

Office of Latina/Latin American Studies (OLLAS) offers educational programming and resources to advance understanding of Chicano/Latino/Latin American peoples and the critical issues affecting these populations. In addition, OLLAS offers mentoring and advising of first-generation and ethnically diverse college students.

### ***Office of STEM Education***

The goal of the STEM Leadership Team is to help UNO to provide meaningful learning experiences in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics for students of all ages. The Team focuses on many aspects of STEM education, including improving teacher training,

increasing the number and diversity of STEM teachers, providing innovative STEM curriculum, and researching STEM education interventions.

***Social Science Research Commons (SSRC)***

The Social Science Research Commons (SSRC) provides a space for students, faculty, and community members to build opportunities and support networks for interdisciplinary research. SSRC is an initiative of the social sciences to promote academic partnership and collaboration by offering a network of support for UNO/UNMC students and faculty as they work to master critical research tools and methodologies.

***Support and Training for the Evaluation of Programs (STEPs)***

Support and Training for the Evaluation of Programs (STEPs) promotes evidence-based decision making through research and evaluation using a collaborative, utilization-focused approach to support social service programs and policies that transform and improve lives. STEP's makes extensive use of data visualization and infographics to make assessments accessible, understandable, and inform program improvement, increase sustainability, prepare logic models, and assess needs, activities, and outcomes.

***Community Counseling Clinic***

The Community Counseling Clinic is staffed by advanced students in the UNO Graduate Department of Counseling and is supervised by licensed department faculty. The clinic offers individual and group counseling sessions for people of all ages. Areas of research include personal wellness, anxiety, depression, addiction, and stress management.

***The CADRE Project***

The CADRE project provides an opportunity for newly certified elementary or secondary teachers to complete an accelerated master's program while receiving support from UNO faculty. One of the goals of this project is to create a stronger network between teacher preparation programs, professional development, and participating school districts.