

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY STATEMENT

CLASSIFICATION: J-JZ (POLITICAL SCIENCE)

JULY 1999

General Purpose: To support the undergraduate academic programs, including advanced seminars and some faculty research.

Collection Level Intensity: Introductory research.

Geographical Areas: No limits.

Chronological Periods: No limits, although major concern is present political issues.

Types of Materials Collected: In-depth monograph collection covering both historical and developmental aspects, with more emphasis on defense-related topics and terrorism. Strong serial/periodical coverage, due to the variety and current nature of the studies. Government documents are acquired heavily through the partial depository program. A broad range of reference materials, including dictionaries, yearbooks, encyclopedias, directories, handbooks, and almanacs, are acquired to meet the need for current information and background information on US and international issues. Major indexing and abstracting tools and a variety of bibliographic sources are requisite to the research needs of the patrons. Electronic sources include online databases, appropriate CD-ROMs, and evaluated Internet Web sites.

Types of Materials Excluded: Audiovisual materials.

Other Factors: Political science interrelates with other fields such as social science, international relations, geography, history, aerospace sciences, law, economics, military arts and sciences, and management.

Subjects and Collecting Levels:

- J Official Documents
- JA Collections and General Works
- JC Political Theory
- JF Constitutional History
- JK United States
- JL British America, Latin America
- JN Europe
- JQ Asia, Africa, Australia, Oceania
- JS Local Government
- JV Colonies and Colonization
- JX International Law
- JZ International Relations

Collection development should be in-depth in undergraduate resources. Areas of strong

interest are the United States political system and international relations--the majority of research revolves around these topics, particularly regarding current events. Concerning the US political system, sources should encompass political history, analysis, policy process, political economy, political parties and interest groups, American foreign policy, public administration, defense policy, Congress, and the Presidency. On the international level, the collection should cover political history, transitions of political systems, evolution of political theory, political violence and revolutionary change, international relations, comparative defense policies, and governments of Russian Federation, the Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia, Western Europe, Latin America, China, Middle East, North Africa, and sub-Saharan Africa. Flexibility in these areas is necessary, as well as timeliness of materials. Anticipating future needs according to past trends and current events is vital. Materials are mainly in English.

Reviewing sources include: Choice, Booklist, Library Journal, Perspectives on Political Science, and reviews from other relevant journals.

Weeding Criteria: Initially, materials are evaluated according to inclusion in Books for College Libraries. Consideration is then given to usage, size of collection, whether part of a series, number of copies, age, timeliness or historical value, and physical condition.

Last updated by Frances Scott, Subject Specialist