

**Iowa State University Library
Collection Development Policy
Department of Economics**

General Purpose

The Parks Library collection supports the research, teaching and curricular needs of faculty and graduate students in the Department of Economics. The collection also supports the needs of research centers associated with the Department of Economics and general education requirements for programs offered in the College of Business and other departments at Iowa State University.

II. History

The Department of Economic Science was established in 1898. Graduate work leading to a Master of Science Degree in Agricultural Economics began in 1912. The department name has changed over the years to reflect affiliation with the programs in history, political science and sociology. Since 1967, it has been known as the Department of Economics.

III. Iowa State University Program

Bachelors Degrees:

The Economics Department offers Bachelor of Science degrees in general economics and a Bachelor of Science degree in agricultural business from the College of Agriculture. In Ag Business, you may select from several areas of emphasis: economics analysis, farm management, agribusiness management, agricultural finance, agricultural sales and marketing, natural resources, agricultural accounting, or foreign agriculture.

Masters Programs:

The Master's program in economics prepares students for careers in business and industry or future graduate work. The most common fields include agricultural marketing, agricultural policy, international economic development, finance, and monetary economics.

Doctoral Program

The Ph.D. program provides rigorous training in theoretical and applied economics leading to teaching and research positions in academia, private business and government. The student is a full partner in this endeavor, taking advantage of a rich series of invited lectures and workshops, exceptional student-faculty interaction, and a wide variety of research opportunities.

Guided by their interests and under the direction of faculty, students select fields of concentration from among the following: agricultural economics, econometrics, economic growth and development, financial economics, industrial organization, international economics, labor economics, macroeconomics, natural resource and environmental economics, and public economics.

Research Centers:

Center for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD)

The Center for Agricultural and Rural Development has conducted policy research using innovative analytical systems and provided graduate training and outreach activities since its founding in 1958 at Iowa State University.

Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture

The Leopold Center has three primary objectives: to identify and reduce negative impacts of agriculture on natural resources and rural communities; to develop profitable farming systems that conserve natural resources; to work with ISU Extension and other groups to inform the public of new research findings

Rural Policy Research Institute (RUPRI)

The Rural Policy Research Institute (RUPRI) conducts policy-relevant research to assist policymakers in understanding the rural impacts of public policies and programs. Many policies that are not explicitly "rural policies" have substantial implications for rural areas, and RUPRI is dedicated to understanding and articulating these implications. RUPRI utilizes an inter-disciplinary approach to facilitate understanding of the rural impacts of public policies and to provide decision support to policy makers.

Beginning Farmer Center

The Iowa Legislature created the Beginning Farmer Center in 1994. The Center is a part of Iowa State University Extension. The idea for a Beginning Farmer Center developed from a series of discussions with Legislators, Extension personnel, and others concerning what could be done to encourage new farmers. These discussions led to the conclusion that it was necessary to have a center to focus exclusively on the needs and issues facing beginning farmers. It was also determined that this Center should facilitate the matching of beginning farmers with existing farmers who wanted to transition their farm businesses to the next generation.

The law creating the Center is set out in Chapter 266 of the Code of Iowa and provides, in part, that the Center "shall... assist in facilitating the transition of farming operations from established farmers to beginning farmers". The law also provides that the Center is to develop "models to increase the number of family farming operations in this state". To meet these mandates the Center has funded a variety of programs, publications and research efforts.

IV. Subject Boundaries

There are economic treatments of subjects spread throughout the LC schedule but the major holdings for Economics are in Library of Congress classes HA through HF. The other main subject areas for economics-related material are as follows:

- J-JX: Economic aspects of political science.
- QA: Econometric methods and applied mathematics
- S: Economic aspects of Agriculture.
- T: Economic aspects of Technology.

The Economics curriculum makes use of government, legal and social sciences materials that are outside the scope of this collection policy.

V. General Collection Guidelines

- A. Linguistic. Linguistic: The language collected is primarily English, although no languages are excluded.
- B. Geographical Areas: Primary emphasis is on the United States. The collection is becoming increasingly international in scope with greater emphasis on emerging markets, especially the Pacific Rim countries, South America and Eastern Europe. No geographic areas are specifically excluded.
- C. Types of Materials Collected: Monographs, periodicals and other serial publications, statistical sources, directories, and other standard reference works are collected. Parks Library also collects many U.S. government documents (e.g. Bureau of Census), as well as publications from the World Bank, OECD and the International Monetary Fund.
- D. Format of Materials Collected: Materials are acquired in print, microform, compact disc, videotape and on the World Wide Web. The collection has become heavily weighted toward electronic and web-based information sources. Many electronic information sources that were available on compact disc have been replaced by web access. No format is excluded if the material is relevant to the collection

VI. Specific Collection Guidelines

Collecting for the Department of Economics includes materials that meet the teaching and research needs of the department. The collection also provides resources for the research centers associated with the department. High priority is given to requests from faculty and students. The emphasis is on the collecting of current literature. Materials are not duplicated unless there is a need for additional copies.

VII. Detailed Subject Areas

Agricultural economics, econometrics, economic growth and development, financial economics, industrial organization, international economics, labor economics,

macroeconomics, microeconomics, natural resource and environmental economics, and public economics

VIII. Other Resources Available

OCLC library holdings are accessed through their respective networked services to supplement the collection. Lexis/Nexis, Econlit, and other indexes and abstracts provide full-text, abstracted, and citation level material. As noted above in Format of Materials Collected, web sites are becoming dominant in the provision of information.

IX. Cross-references to Collection Policies

Agriculture Collection Development Policy
College of Business Collection Development Policy
Sociology Collection Development Policy

X. Creation date

XI. Revision History

XII. LC Class(es), if applicable.

HA-HF, J-JX, QA, S, T

XIII. Bibliographer name

Create date: 9/28/99
JDK: econpol.doc