

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

General Purpose

The University Library collection supports the research, teaching and curricular needs of faculty, undergraduate, 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. The department is jointly administered by the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

III. Iowa State University Program

Bachelors Degrees:

The Economics Department offers Bachelor of Science degrees in general economics through the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and a Bachelor of Science degree in agricultural business from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. The department also offers a B.S. degree in Business Economics through the College of Business.

Masters Programs:

The Master's program in economics prepares students for careers in business and industry or future graduate work. Degrees are offered in economics or agricultural economics. 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.

Students select a field of study (economics or agricultural economics) then select two fields of concentration from among the following: agricultural economics, applied econometrics, environmental and natural resource economics, financial economics, human resources, industrial organization and economics of organization, international economics, and macroeconomics.

Research Centers:

Agricultural Marketing Research Center

The Agricultural Marketing Resource Center is an electronic, national resource for producers interested in value-added agriculture. Browse commodities and products, investigate market and industry trends, study business creation and operation, read research results and locate value-added resources.

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.

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.

Community Vitality Center

The mission of the Iowa Community Vitality Center (CVC) is to serve as a catalyst for innovative projects and initiatives designed to improve the vitality of Iowa communities. The CVC facilitates networking among small and medium size rural communities, sponsors policy analyses, engages communities in dialogue, and fosters discussion among rural and urban interests. The Community Vitality Center is an independent policy analysis center established as a joint collaboration between Iowa State University and rural community leaders representing diverse public and private sector interests from across the state of Iowa.

Iowa Beef Center

The Iowa Beef Center serves as the university's extension program to cattle producers. Our center comprises a dedicated group of faculty and staff from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the College of Veterinary Medicine and Iowa State University Extension. They work together to develop and deliver the latest in research-based information to improve the profitability and vitality of Iowa's beef industry.

Value Added Agriculture Program

The Value Added Agriculture Program (VAAP) provides unbiased, science-based information to help establish or expand agricultural-related businesses in Iowa. Whether it's a new start-up, or an established business wanting to expand, the VAAP works directly with the owners of the business.

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 international organizations such as 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 internet. The collection has become heavily weighted toward electronic and internet information sources. 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 subject indexes and abstracts provide full-text, abstracted, and citation level material.

IX. Cross-references to Collection Policies

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

X. Creation date

Create date: 9/28/99

XI. Revision History

Revised 11/10

XII. LC Class(es), if applicable.

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

XIII. Bibliographer name

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