

## COLLECTION AREA

### Psychology

#### **I. GENERAL PURPOSE**

Materials in the field of psychology are intended to cover a range of curricular and research needs for undergraduate, graduate, and faculty personnel. Defined as one of the social sciences, psychology has interdisciplinary ties to sociology, social work, education, anthropology, political science, and business. In addition, psychology has close relationships with many of the natural sciences such as biology, zoology, mathematics, and physiology. The collection intends to continue to support the research areas in which faculty and graduate student have interests while at the same time keeping abreast of changing developments within the field. The curriculum will also continue to be supported and materials bought that will reflect the needs of students.

#### **II. HISTORY**

A. S. Welch, President of Iowa State University, was the first psychology professor, taking that position in 1872. The next two presidents of the university, Chamberlain and Beardshear, also served as psychology professors. Orange H. Cessna, a graduate of the college's first class in 1872, served as the first psychology professor who was not also a president of the university. He was appointed chair to the Department of History and Psychology in 1901. John E. Evans (Ph.D. Columbia) became the chair of the newly independent Department of Psychology in 1922.

#### **III. IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY PROGRAM**

The Department of Psychology offers courses in various areas of psychology – counseling, personality, social, developmental, applied and experimental, industrial/organizational, health, cognitive, and educational. These courses are mainly concentrated in the departmental programs – counseling, cognitive/experimental, and social/personality/health. The Ph.D. program was instituted in 1964. The doctoral specialization in counseling psychology has been fully accredited through the APA (American Psychological Association) since 1973. Interdepartmental concentrations in neuroscience, industrial relations, and a minor in gerontology are important areas of focus.

An ongoing collaborative relationship with the Iowa State University Student Counseling Service offers opportunities for students to integrate and apply their academic knowledge through practica.

#### **IV. SUBJECT BOUNDARIES**

The primary emphases for the department are in the areas of counseling, cognition and memory, psychopathology, developmental psychology, social psychology, psychopharmacology, stress and coping, cultural psychology, health psychology, aggression, psychology and the law, research methods, and statistics. The theories of Freud, Adler, and Jung are peripheral to the department's areas of research and teaching; thus, materials dealing with these aspects of psychology are only collected if there is an historical work of some importance.

In the area of counseling, the departmental interest is primarily with individuals. The bibliographer responsible for the Human Development and Family Studies Department generally collects family counseling materials. The Women's Studies bibliographer shares responsibility for

gender-related items. The bibliographer for Diversity shares responsibility for multicultural issues. Industrial Relations items are generally the responsibility of the Business bibliographer. In general, textbooks are not collected, but in the case of some subjects, such as neuroscience, a particularly excellent textbook will be added to the collection. Undergraduates, as well as others, can often benefit from the lucid explanations offered. Certain monographs, described as readers, are added to the collection in an area where the journal holdings at Iowa State University are not comprehensive or where the ability for a researcher to achieve the coverage offered by the reader would require much time and effort to locate the individual items.

## **V. GENERAL COLLECTION GUIDELINES**

A. Linguistic – For the most part, materials in English are the most heavily collected; however, other languages may be collected if the item covers an area of interest. In the past there was a heavy emphasis on German language materials

B. Geographical Areas – The majority of interest is in American materials but works from other areas such as Britain, Europe, Canada, and Australia are also bought. Multicultural interest has increased and materials about developing countries within the arena of psychology are also added to the collection when they fit the parameters of research interest. No specific geographical areas are excluded from the collection.

C. Types of Materials – Monographs and serials are the main focus of the collection, but dissertations and other documents are acquired when appropriate. Indexes and abstracts, both print and electronic, are maintained. The primary index for the field of Psychology is PsycINFO; this database is available to the Iowa State University community.

D. Format of Materials – No format is excluded; videos and DVDs are purchased when the subject fits the needs of the curriculum and/or research. Electronic journals are available from various publishers for selected ranges of years. Although e-journals comprise a small number of available journals at this time, trends indicate these will become more prevalent in the future. Every effort will be made to seek out and catalog those e-journals that have topics that fit the research interests of the department.

## **VI. SPECIFIC COLLECTION GUIDELINES**

In addition to the subject coverage mentioned earlier, the collection consists of historical works of major importance detailing the development of the field of psychology. The history of psychology is deeply rooted in philosophy and the natural sciences so early works may be found within the Library of Congress classifications for those areas.

Works that aid the researcher with methodology and quantitative and statistical skills are purchased. Within the Reference Collection there are encyclopedic works and general dictionaries. Every effort is made to keep this material current. Monographic works on psychological tests and testing are also found in the Reference Collection.

Items in the area of parapsychology are generally not collected.

## **VII. DETAILED SUBJECT AREAS**

Topics that may be selected cover a broad range of research interests: discourse analysis, psycholinguistics, rural mental health, pain theory, neuropsychology, group therapy, sex offender recidivism, marital relationships, meta-analysis, measurement theory, human aggression, object recognition, visual cognition, memory (sensory and biological), opiates, prenatal drug exposure, health and service usage behaviors, ethical issues in counseling, history and philosophy of psychology, evolutionary psychology, psychology of gender, stress and coping and social support, study of self and self-concept, personality, counseling process and outcomes, organizational psychology and job satisfaction, vocational behavior, cross-cultural psychology, adolescent risk behavior, eyewitness identification, social cognition, and stereotypes and prejudice.

## **VIII. OTHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE**

Several indexes and abstracts cover the research needs for Psychology. The primary index is PsycINFO, an electronic database. The print equivalent is Psychological Abstracts. The electronic database offers coverage of the journal literature back to 1887, with book/monographic coverage beginning in 1987. Other electronic sources cover topics of interest to the Psychology Department. Among these are Sociological Abstracts, Expanded Academic Index, Anthropological Literature, and MEDLINE.

## **IX. CROSS-REFERENCES TO COLLECTION POLICIES**

Human Development and Family Studies Collection Policy  
Women's Studies Collection Policy  
Sociology Collection Policy  
Diversity Collection Policy  
Business Collection Policy

## **X. CREATION DATE**

July 2000 – Rita A. Marinko

## **XI. REVISION HISTORY**

August 2000 – Rita A. Marinko

## **XII. LC CLASS(ES)**

Psychology materials are classed between BF 1- 2050, RC 321 – 422, and RC 435 – 571. Social psychology is classed between HM 251 – 291. The interdisciplinary nature of the field of psychology may dictate that other pertinent monographs and journals could be located within other Library of Congress classifications as well.

## **XIII. BIBLIOGRAPHER NAME**

Rita A. Marinko