Collection Development Policy
Aging Studies

Spring 2004

Purpose:

The aging studies collection serves the informational needs of a wide range of individuals within the university community. Primary users are the students of gerontology engaged in degree programs at the University of South Florida, Aging Studies Faculty, and graduate students and professional staff employed by the Florida Policy Exchange Center on Aging, Suncoast Gerontology Center, and the Florida Mental Health Institute. Other clientele include USF faculty and students engaged in USF Aging Programs, and related disciplines such as sociology, criminal justice, public administration, psychology, medicine, anthropology, etc.; gerontology practitioners employed locally by the State and Federal Governments; and professionals employed within the private sector, such as nursing home administrators, geriatric nurses, counselors, etc.

The aging studies collection supports the curricular/research needs of the School of Aging Studies. The School offers courses of study leading to the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Gerontology, Bachelor of Science Degree in Gerontology, and the Master of Arts Degree in Gerontology. The School also offers a Ph. D. in Aging Studies, believed to be the first of its kind in the world. The degree program has a combined emphasis on providing a broad-based foundation in the interdisciplinary aspects of aging with a focus on developing an in-depth expertise in a research area.

Collection Guidelines:

Core Areas Within Library of Congress Classification System Pertinent to Aging Studies, Gerontology, and Geriatrics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LC Class</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Current Collection</th>
<th>Collection Goal</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HQ1060-1064</td>
<td>The Aged</td>
<td>3c</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RC952-954</td>
<td>Geriatrics</td>
<td>3c</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>HD7088-7104</td>
<td>Social Security</td>
<td>3c</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H97</td>
<td>Policy Analysis</td>
<td>3c</td>
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Core Areas Within National Library of Medicine Classification System Pertinent to Aging Studies, Gerontology, and Geriatrics:
<table>
<thead>
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<th>LC Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WT</td>
<td>Aging</td>
<td>3c</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WY152</td>
<td>Geriatric Nursing</td>
<td>3c</td>
<td>4</td>
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</tbody>
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3a = Basic study or instructional support level. Supports lower division undergraduate courses.

3b = Intermediate study or instructional support level. Supports advance undergraduate course work, but not Master's degree programs.

3c = Advanced study or instructional support level. Supports Master's degree level program

4 = Research level. Supports doctoral level programs and other original research

Languages:

The primary language of collection development is English. Works in the modern European languages are acquired on a very selective basis. Translations of foreign language titles into English are acquired selectively.

**Chronological Guidelines:**

Primary emphasis is on building a collection which reflects current trends and developments in social, applied, and clinical gerontology. Historical perspective is essential to an understanding and appreciation of social policy as it relates to gerontology; consequently, academic materials focusing on the history of social security and social policy in the 20th and 21st centuries will be actively acquired.

Collection Guidelines:

**Geographical Guidelines:**

Primary emphasis is on the selection of materials which pertain to the United States or present the American perspective. This is especially true in areas such as social policy and planning. Lesser emphasis is placed on other geographical areas. Both the rural and urban aspects of gerontology are of interest.

**Treatment of Subject:**

Publications are selected representing the entire spectrum of subjects related to social, applied, and clinical gerontology. First priority is assigned to those materials providing curricular/research support in these subjects:

- Health implications of the aging process;
- Clinical gerontology;
Physical, psychological, and social aspects of the human aging process;

Planning, development, delivery, and evaluation of community and institutional services for older persons;

Nursing home and long-term care administration;

Housing for older persons;

Retirement and economic aspects of aging.

Counseling older persons;

Social policy and planning in aging at the local, State, and Federal level;

Institutional administration; and

Mental health and aging.

Lower priority is assigned to those selections which support faculty research consistent with the overall thrust of the Aging Studies Program. Faculty research interests include the following:

Housing;

Needs assessments;

Evaluation research;

Research methods;

Elder abuse;

Alcoholism;

Disaster research;

**Treatment of Subject:**

Women’s issues;

Minority aging;

Loneliness;

The extreme aged; and

Mental health.
Types of Materials:

Both monographic and serial publications will be selected. At present, the Gerontology Department places equal emphasis on building strong monographic and serial holdings at the Tampa Campus Library.

Types of materials excluded from the gerontology collection:

- Lower division undergraduate texts;
- Circulars, brochures, and other pamphlet-like materials;
- Minor reminiscences;
- Reprinted journal articles;
- Newsletter subscriptions;
- Juvenile materials; and
- Pictorial treatments of a nonacademic nature.

Appropriate selections include the following:

- Monographs, serials, and dissertations;
- Upper division undergraduate and graduate level textbooks;
- Proceedings;
- Materials published by societies, institutes, and professional schools; and
- Practitioner-oriented materials such as casebooks, training manuals, standards and specifications, etc.

Requests for micro formatted materials are considered individually. Requests for audiovisuals are referred to the University Media Center.

Other Resources:

The Library's U.S. Government Documents Collection, Florida State Documents Collection, ERIC Resources in Education on microfiche, and the SCAN Repository on microfiche are valuable resources. USF Shimberg Health Sciences Library and FMHI Library holdings in geriatrics and geriatric nursing are important resources for the aging studies scholar. Bibliographic access to the journal literature is made possible through the USF Libraries website, and excellent print and online tools available in the Tampa Library Reference Department.

Related Subject Policy Statements:
Aging Studies is by nature an interdisciplinary field relying heavily on the literature base in the social sciences, medicine, business and management sciences, and education. Information on the selection of library materials important to gerontology can be found in these collection development policy statements: Psychology, Anthropology, Geography, Political Science, Sociology, Social Work, Rehabilitation Counseling, Urban Administration, Business Administration, Education, etc.

JANA FUTCH MARTIN, University Librarian

06/10/04