The Catholic University of America Libraries
Collection Development Policy

Subject
Politics

Mission
Politics materials are acquired and maintained by the University Libraries to support the research, teaching and learning of the Department of Politics. The collection supports three subfields: political theory, American government and world politics (including international relations and comparative politics).

History
Although a department of political science was envisioned since the inception of The Catholic University of America, as part of the School of the Social Sciences, the department of politics did not have its own staff until the academic year 1932-1933.

Clientele
Clientele served by Politics materials in the University Libraries include:

- Students enrolled in undergraduate, master’s and doctoral degree programs offered by the department of Politics.
- Faculty of the department of Politics
- Other University faculty, students, and staff
- Faculty, students, and staff of other WRLC institutions and other local consortia
- Other researchers who need to consult materials not available to them in the libraries which ordinarily support their study.

Current areas of faculty research and departmental course offerings include: political theory, political philosophy, American political leadership, the party system and the U.S. presidency; constitutionalism and the Supreme Court; international security, NATO, the Cold War, international communism, and comparative government.

Regions of interest include: United States, Latin America, Russia, East and West Central Europe; East Asia and North Korea.

Geographical
Works are primarily published in North America and Europe.
Language

Works collected are primarily in English.

Publication Dates

Materials published recently are collected. Older titles are acquired by specific request.

Formats

Monographs, periodicals, serials, abstracts and indexes, electronic resources, and conference proceedings are part of the collection. Audio-visual materials are acquired by specific request.

Subjects

Materials that support the study of Politics appear mainly in the J section of Library of Congress classification; materials that support the United States presidency are in E151-887, and constitutional law appear in the KF section.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LC Classification</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Collection goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E 151-887</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Instructional support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JA</td>
<td>Political Science, General</td>
<td>Instructional support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JC</td>
<td>Political Theory</td>
<td>Instructional support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JK</td>
<td>Political institutions and public administration, United States</td>
<td>Instructional support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JN</td>
<td>Political institutions and public Administration, Europe</td>
<td>Instructional support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JV</td>
<td>Colonies; Emigration and immigration, migration</td>
<td>As appropriate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JX</td>
<td>Discontinued as of May 1, 1997. This Classification split into JZ and KZ</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<tr>
<td>JZ</td>
<td>International relations</td>
<td>Instruction support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KF</td>
<td>Law of the United States</td>
<td>Basic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KZ</td>
<td>Law of nations</td>
<td>Basic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Definition of Collecting Levels

In developing guidelines for specific subject areas for levels of collection acquisition appropriate for the Libraries, the following categories should be used by subject selectors (as partially

Minimal: only a few items purchased beyond very basic works.

Basic: highly selective collection that introduces and defines the subject and indicates the varieties of information available elsewhere.

Instructional support: collection supports undergraduate or graduate-level coursework and sustained independent study.

Research: collection contains materials necessary for dissertations and independent research.

Comprehensive: collection is exhaustive.

As appropriate: interdisciplinary collecting that is carried out in areas not primarily dedicated to subject-specific research as it is usually conducted at The Catholic University of America, but which is important for the instructional and research requirements of users.