

Collection Policy: Italian Studies

Last reviewed October 2010

Purpose

The Collection Development policy is used as a guide to shape relevant collections and to ensure consistency in collection development. The decision to purchase library materials is primarily the responsibility of the Collections Librarian in consultation with faculty in the Department.

This policy has been updated by Joanne Oud, the Collections Librarian, in cooperation with Monica Stellan, the Faculty Library Liaison for Italian.

Collection Focus

The primary focus of the collection is to support undergraduate study and research in Italian language, culture, and civilization. Currently, Italian is offered as a Minor in the Languages and Literatures Department, and courses in Italian language, film, and culture are taught on the Waterloo campus. Italian language courses are also offered on the Brantford Campus.

The collection also supports, on a selective basis, individual faculty research interests.

Collection Scope

- **Language:** mainly English, with dual-language editions of major Italian literary classics. Italian language works are purchased for items of particular significance, mainly on faculty request.
- **Chronological Period:** No special limitations.
- **Dates of Publication:** Primarily recently published works.
- **Geographical Areas:** Primarily Italy and areas affected by the Italian diaspora, especially North America.

Types, Formats, and Readership of Materials Collected

- **Readership:** Materials with undergraduate-level academic readership, with preference given to surveys, introductions, and works of broader scope. More specialized research monographs or items with limited undergraduate use are usually only purchased if not available at the University of Guelph or Waterloo.
- **Format:** Web format is preferred for reference sources, language resources (e.g. dictionaries), journals and indexes
- **Multiple copies:** Single copies are normally purchased.
- **Books:** print formats are usually purchased. Web formats may also be selected, especially if the title is of interest to users at multiple Laurier campuses.
- **Types of materials not purchased:** films (videos/dvds), textbooks, abridgements, study aids, limited editions, works by vanity presses, partial contents (eg. single issues of journals, electronic versions of single chapters of books), juvenile works, and popular works. Reprints are purchased selectively.

Subjects Collected and Collecting Priorities

Collecting priorities are categorized into 3 levels:

- A=highest emphasis. Materials required to directly support core courses.
- B= secondary emphasis. Materials on major Italian Studies topics which indirectly support core courses.
- C=selective emphasis. Materials which are useful but less central.

| Subjects Collected | LC Class (where possible to determine) | Collecting Priority |
|--|--|---------------------|
| Italian Literature (all periods, emphasis on contemporary) | PQ4001-PQ5999 | C |
| Italian Literature (critical and dual language editions of major Italian | | A |
| Italian Language (history and linguistics) | PC1001-PC1977 | B |
| Italian Diaspora/Migration | JV8130-8139 | A |
| Italians in America | E184.I8 | A |
| Italians in Canada | FC106.I8 | A |
| Art & architecture | N6911-N6923.3 | B |
| Italian cinema | PN1993.5.I88 | A |
| Italian society & culture | DG441-DG453 | A |
| Italian politics (contemporary) | | B |
| Italian mafia | HV6453 | A |
| Women & gender | | B |
| Italian food | | A |
| Italian history (all periods) | DG11-975 | B |
| Italian history (contemporary) | DG576-584 | A |
| Italian history (Fascism, 1919-1945) | DG571-572 | A |
| Italian social history | HN471-HN490 | B |
| Italian business & economics | HB109, HC301-310 | A |
| Italian arts & crafts | | A |
| Italian music | | A |
| Italian social sciences | | A |
| Marco Polo | | A |
| Italian explorers | | A |

Related Programs and Support

Related books are also purchased by the Library to support Laurier undergraduate and graduate programs in Film Studies, History, and Music.

The University of Waterloo Libraries have collections to support a B.A. program in Italian Studies, and related programs such as Architecture. The most significant areas include:

- St. Jerome's University Library: Italian literature, especially the Medieval and Renaissance periods, women's studies and Italian Canadian works
- The Faculty of Architecture Library: socio-cultural, artistic and architectural history of Italy

The University of Guelph has collections to support European Studies, especially in literature, queer studies, women's studies, and the history of food.

These collections are available to Laurier faculty and students for direct borrowing or free delivery, with requests placed through the Primo catalogue