

Collection Policy: Mediterranean 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 developed by Joanne Oud, the Languages and Literatures Librarian, in cooperation with Abderrahman Beggar, the Mediterranean Studies program's Library Liaison.

Collection Focus

The primary focus of the collection is to support undergraduate teaching, study and research in the culture and civilization of countries in the Mediterranean region. Currently, the Department of Languages and Literatures offers a B.A. in Mediterranean Studies, with courses in Mediterranean Culture and Civilization.

The collection also supports, on a selective basis, individual faculty research interests in Mediterranean culture. Some preference is given to materials that also support the Arabic program. Materials on some Mediterranean countries are regularly purchased to support other programs (e.g. French, Spanish, Italian, Greece (Classical Studies)). Therefore, priority for Mediterranean Studies is given in to materials on countries which are not a focus of other programs.

Collection Scope

- **Language:** English language is preferred.
- **Chronological Period:** no special limitations, though the contemporary period is emphasized.
- **Dates of Publication:** emphasis is placed on recently published works.
- **Geographical Areas:** Mediterranean countries: Spain, France, Monaco, Malta, Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Albania, Greece, Turkey, Syria, Cyprus, Lebanon, Israel, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco.

Types, Formats, and Readership of Materials Collected

- **Readership:** Materials with academic-level readership at the undergraduate level are emphasized.
- **Format:** Web format is preferred for reference sources, journals and indexes.
- **Multiple copies:** Single copies are usually purchased. Books or other items that are either expensive or of specialized interest/limited use are usually only purchased if not available at the University of Guelph or Waterloo.
- **Books:** print formats are usually purchased. Web-based formats may also be selected, especially if the title is of interest to users at multiple Laurier campuses.
- **Types of materials not purchased:** textbooks, abridgements, study aids, limited editions, works by

vanity presses, juvenile works, pamphlets, and partial contents (eg. single issues of journals, electronic versions of single chapters of books). Reprints are purchased selectively.

Subjects Collected and Collecting Priorities

Collecting priorities are categorized into three levels:

- A=highest emphasis. Materials directly support core courses.
- B=secondary emphasis. Materials on major Mediterranean Studies topics that indirectly support courses.
- C=selective emphasis. Materials that are useful but do not support current courses.

Subjects collected	LC Class (where known)	Priority
Contemporary issues in Mediterranean countries		A
Mediterranean culture & civilization (historical)	PJ6001-8517	B
Mediterranean culture & civilization (contemporary)		A
Literature of Mediterranean countries		C
Art & architecture of Mediterranean countries		B
Cinema of Mediterranean countries		A
Mediterranean cultural diversity & minority groups		A
Mediterranean immigration & diaspora		A
Moors in Spain		A
Ottoman empire		A
Mediterranean colonialism & post-colonialism		A
Mediterranean political conflicts (e.g. Balkan wars, Israel)		A
Nomadic societies (e.g. Berber, gypsies, Tuareg)		A
Islamism		A

Related Programs and Support

Related materials on Mediterranean culture are also purchased in support of programs such as Arabic, French, Spanish, Italian, Film Studies, Global Studies, Political Science, Archaeology & Classical Studies, and History.

Laurier is the only local university that offers a Mediterranean Studies program. However, the Universities of Guelph and Waterloo do have some related collections that complement those at the Laurier Library, especially in the Mediterranean countries and cultures of Europe (e.g. France, Spain, Italy). Their collections are available to Laurier students and faculty through the shared Primo Library catalogue.