

**Western Libraries
Collections Management Policy
Epidemiology & Biostatistics**

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Purpose of the Collection:

The epidemiology and biostatistics collection of Western Libraries is intended to support the research activities of faculty, staff, and students at the undergraduate, M. Sc. and PhD levels. The collection also supports the instructional requirements of the Department at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Unless specified, collection in this area will focus on all aspects of epidemiology and biostatistics. The Allyn & Betty Taylor Library is the primary location for material supporting the research and instructional needs of the Epidemiology & Biostatistics Department.

Program Information:

It is recognized that the Department offers a graduate program in Epidemiology and Biostatistics for students at both the Master and PhD levels. It is also recognized that a new undergraduate program, leading to an Honours Bachelor of Medical Sciences in Epidemiology and Biostatistics is proposed, with its first 3rd year class entering in September 2013. The faculty is also committed to excellence in teaching in the M.D. program and in the new Schulich Interfaculty Program in Public Health. Collections activity will take this into consideration.

Subject Areas Covered:

Collections activity will address all aspects of epidemiology & biostatistics but in particular focus on materials supporting the main research themes of the department that include population health, biostatistics, health services research, knowledge translation, and personalized medicine. A more detailed listing of topics covered for both research and instruction can be found in the Appendix at the end of this document.

Format:

Acquisitions will include monographs, book series, and journals. Resources, particularly journals, in digital format are preferentially selected over their print counterparts.

Alternate formats, such as CD-ROM, video, DVD, and microform, are considered on an individual request basis.

Language:

English is the primary language of collection in epidemiology & biostatistics with other languages being considered upon request.

Source of Publication:

Sources of publication are primarily Canada, the United States, Australia and Europe with the language restriction applied. Material published in other regions may be considered on request and will be evaluated for quality and relevance.

Date of publication:

Materials with a recent imprint date are preferred. Older material will be considered upon request.

Exclusions:

With the exception of individual requests and some selective acquisitions, the following types of material are not acquired:

- popular literature
- conference and symposium proceedings
- theses or dissertations from other institutions
- course textbooks

Related collections and cooperation:

The collection for epidemiology and biostatistics is further supplemented by collection activities in related fields such as the other basic medical sciences, clinical medical sciences, dentistry, allied health sciences, nursing and statistics & actuarial science. Furthermore, collections activities outside of the Taylor library in such subject areas such as business, economics, psychology and sociology could also support the research and instructional activities of the department.

Gifts:

The library gratefully accepts gifts of materials in good condition. As considerable expense is incurred by Western Libraries in the receipt and processing, the library only accepts gifts of materials which support current teaching and research needs, or which are not adequately represented in the collection.

Managing the Collection:

In order to ensure that collections remain optimally useful for our patrons, it is necessary to analyze collection usage and available space regularly. Items will need to be selectively removed from the onsite collection from time to time.

Duplicate items that are no longer required to support the curriculum, and damaged items that can no longer be replaced may be removed from the collection at the discretion of the Subject Librarian.

Items that are unique to Western may be transferred to a storage facility. Material housed in these storage facilities is available on request through the Library Catalogue.

Criteria for transfer selection include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1) Outdated or previous editions of titles
- 2) Medium- to low-use items
- 3) Material that is available in alternate formats, i.e., online
- 4) Materials that would benefit from storage in a more controlled environment.

Consult with the Subject Librarian for further details about these criteria.

Resources to aid in acquisition of material:

The majority of monograph purchases for epidemiology & biostatistics are acquired through the use of a monographs profile with the book vendor Coutts. Also, there is weekly monitoring of titles through Doody's Alerting Service. Finally, patrons may make recommendations for the collection through the online form available at <https://www.lib.uwo.ca/acquire.html>.

Appendix – Detailed Subject Listing

Subject Areas in Support of Research

Addiction research
Adolescent health
Bioethics including public health ethics
Child and family health
Clinical epidemiology
Clinical trials including design and implementation
Cluster randomization trials
Comparative effectiveness studies
Cost effectiveness analysis
Disease specific epidemiology with attention to
 Addison's disease
 Alzheimer's disease
 Cardiovascular disease
 Chronic diseases
 Diabetes
 Depression & suicide risk
 Epilepsy
 Eye diseases
 Inflammatory bowel disease
 Infectious/communicable diseases including STIs with attention to
 HBV
 HCV
 HIV
 HSV
 HPV
 Influenza
 Kidney diseases including renal failure
 Malignancies including hematologic
 Mental health
 Neuromuscular diseases especially cerebral palsy
 Obesity
 Psychotic disorders
 Rheumatic diseases including
 Osteoarthritis
 Rheumatoid arthritis
 Scleroderma
 Systemic lupus erythematosus
 Stroke
 Thromboembolic diseases
Epidemiological regression models
Evidence-based decision making
Falls prevention & injury
Geriatrics with special attention to cognitive impairment
Health care management including

- Operations management
- Scheduling
- Simulation
- Health determinants with attention to
 - Personality
 - Social support
- Health economics
- Health Informatics
- Health policy and reform
- Health services research with attention to
 - Access and barriers to care
 - Community mental health programs
 - Dialysis
 - Immunization
 - Infection control
 - Primary care
 - Program evaluation
 - Surgical epidemiology
 - Transplantation
 - Wound management
- Health surveys
- Health technology assessment
- International health services
- Infection control and healthcare acquired infections
- Knowledge translation
- Musculoskeletal epidemiology
- Native community health
- Nutritional epidemiology
- Observational study validity
- Outcome measures
- Pharmacoeconomics
- Pharmacoepidemiology
- Pregnancy and parturition with attention to
 - Neonatal and developmental outcomes
 - Perinatal health surveillance
 - Preterm birth determinants
 - Risk factors
- Population health surveillance
- Public Health
- Public Health Partnerships
- Quality of life (health related)
- Randomized controlled trials
- Rehabilitation
- Risk estimation and survival data
- Social stress
- Smoking
- Statistical genetics
- Systematic reviews and meta-analyses
- Traffic safety

Subject Areas in Support of Instruction

Analytic epidemiology
Biostatistics - introductory and advanced
Clinical epidemiology
Clinical trials – design and analysis
Epidemiology – introductory and advanced
Health and human services
Health economics
Health policy
Health services research
Population health surveillance
Program evaluation
Research methodology – introductory and advanced
Statistical genetics
Survey research methods