

**Western Libraries
Collections Management Policy
Film Studies**

Date created: September 2005

Revised: January 2011

Subject librarian: Fran Gray

Purpose of the Collection:

The Film Studies collection of Western Libraries supports the research activities of faculty, students and staff and the instructional requirements of undergraduate and graduate programs in the department of Film Studies. The D.B. Weldon Library is the primary location for material supporting the research and instructional needs of students and faculty in the department.

Program Information:

The goal of the Film Studies program at Western is to encourage students to critically engage with the art of cinema, and to explore the global and historical conditions that have made cinema one of the most influential forms of visual culture. Students develop strong skills in critical thinking shaped by contemporary, interdisciplinary scholarship.

Instruction is offered at the undergraduate and Masters level. The MA program, *Critical Studies in Global Film Cultures*, prepares students for Ph D programs in Film Studies or an associated discipline such as Communications, English, Comparative Literature, Cultural Studies, Visual Art or Women's Studies.

Subject Areas Covered:

The emphasis of the Film Studies collection is in the areas of film theory, film criticism, international cinema, Canadian national cinema, documentary film, film genre and film history. Appendix A, on page 4, shows the Library of Congress classification areas that are the focus of the Western Libraries Film Studies collection.

Physical format:

Acquisitions will include monographs, published film scripts, book series, and journals. Resources, particularly journals, in digital format are preferentially selected over their print counterparts. Alternate formats, such as DVD, CD-ROM, video and microform may be acquired.

Acquiring Films for the Collection:

Films will be purchased only if appropriate Public Performance Rights [PPR] are included in order to permit group viewing. Western Libraries purchases licenses for

material distributed through Audio-Cine and Criterion to cover PPR for those films.

Language:

English is the primary language of collection although French language materials dealing with the Canadian national cinema are considered. Materials in other Western European languages that support teaching and research in the area of International cinema may be purchased at the discretion of the subject librarian.

Source of Publication:

Sources of publication are primarily Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Western Europe. 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:

Material in the areas of film technology, production techniques, the motion picture industry and the craft of film acting are collected selectively.

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

- visual materials in 16mm format
- lower level undergraduate textbooks
- popular biographies

Related collections and cooperation:

The Western Libraries collection for Film Studies is supplemented by collections in related fields, such as English, Visual Arts, Women's Studies and Media Studies.

Gifts:

The library gratefully accepts gifts of materials in good condition which are within the scope of coverage for its collection and which the library either does not already own or does not own in sufficient depth to support teaching and research needs.

Receipts for tax purposes are issued in accordance with the Western Libraries policy "Guidelines for Gifts-in-Kind". Those wishing to make donations should contact the Subject Librarian for Film Studies.

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. 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 controlled environment.

Consult the Subject Librarian for further details about these criteria.

Resources to aid in acquisition of material:

The majority of material for Film Studies is received as a result of the implementation of a vendor approval profile that is regularly reviewed by the Film Studies Librarian. Discretionary purchases are made for material requested by faculty and students and for items identified through regular review of publications such Choice, Film Literature Index and The Year's Work in Critical and Cultural Theory.

Appendix A

Areas of Focus for Film Studies By Library of Congress Classification Number

Description	LC Call Number
Motion picture industry and history	PN1993-1993.45
Films by country	PN1993.5
Canadian national cinema	PN1993.5.C2
Study and teaching of motion pictures	PN1993.7
Academy awards	PN1993.9 – 1993.92
Censorship – Motion pictures	PN1994 – PN1995.67
Motion pictures and literature	PN1995.3
History of Motion pictures with sound	PN1995.7
Silent films	PN1995.75
Motion pictures -- Plots, themes, etc.	PN1995.9
Documentary films – history and criticism	PN1995.9.D6
Film noir	PN1995.9.F54
Motion pictures – social aspects	PN1995.9.S6
Feminist film criticism	PN1995.9.W6
Motion picture authorship	PN1996
Feature films, screenplays, animated films	PN1997 – 1997.5
Motion picture plots	PN1997.8
Adaptations	PN1997.85
Screenwriters, directors, producers	PN1998 – 1998.2
Directors – interviews and biographies	PN1998.3
Studios	PN1999