

Western Libraries Collections Management Policy for Linguistics

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Purpose of the Collection:

The Linguistics collections of Western Libraries is intended to support the research activities of faculty, students, and staff, and for the instructional requirements of undergraduate and graduate programs in Anthropology, Department of French Studies and the Hispanic Studies section of Modern Languages & Literatures. The D. B. Weldon Library is the primary location for material supporting the research and instructional needs of Linguistics. Further material can also be found in the collections of the Allyn and Betty Taylor Library (Sciences) and the Education Library.

Program Information:

A major and a minor undergraduate degree program in Linguistics is offered jointly between the Departments of Anthropology, Department of French Studies and the Hispanic Studies section of Modern Languages & Literatures, with courses offered by various departments, including Philosophy and Psychology. Courses in the MA program are offered by faculty from many departments, primarily Anthropology, French Studies, and Modern Languages & Literatures and including Computer Science, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Education, Philosophy and Psychology. A PhD with a focus on Linguistics is offered through the French and Hispanic Studies.

Subject Areas Covered:

The collection supports all aspects of Linguistics research and teaching areas at Western. Currently, Linguistics faculty specialize in the following areas:

- Acoustics
- African Languages
- Anthropological Linguistics
- Bilingualism and Trilingualism
- Computational Linguistics
- Developmental Language Impairment
- Dialectology
- Discourse
- First language acquisition

Formal Languages
French and Canadian French
Hispanic Linguistics
Historical Linguistics
Information Organization
Japanese
Language Contact
Language Documentation
Language Processing
Linguistic Theory
Linguistics
Language Variation
Malagasy
Minority Language Issues
Morphology
Natural Language Processing
Philosophical Foundations of Linguistics
Phonetics
Phonology
Pragmatics
Psycholinguistics
Psychology
Research Methods and Statistics
Romance Linguistics
Second Language Acquisition
Semantics
Sociolinguistics
Syntax
Typology
Variation

Format:

Acquisitions will include monographs, book series, and journals. Resources, particularly journals and reference works, in digital format are selected preferentially 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, followed by French and Spanish works which are acquired selectively. Materials in other languages may be purchased to support the curriculum. English translations of major works in other languages are also acquired.

Source of Publication:

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

The following materials are acquired selectively:

1. Proceedings of conferences, symposia, etc.
2. Practical guides to grammar, lexicology, etc.
3. Works of less than 50 pages in the above categories
4. Reprints

Excluded from the collection are:

1. Translations into languages other than English
2. 'Vanity press' publications
3. Theses from other institutions, except by faculty request
4. Textbooks, except by faculty request

Related Collections and Cooperation:

Collections in related fields, such as Anthropology, French, Modern Languages & Literatures, Education, Philosophy, Psychology, Communications Studies, Health Sciences, and the Government Publications and Data collections supplement the Linguistics collection at Western Libraries collection.

Western Libraries also participates in cooperative agreements for interlibrary loans and offers a subsidized interlibrary loan service through the Ontario Council of University Libraries [OCUL] RACER system.

In addition Western libraries participates in consortial buying agreements with OCUL and other university consortia that allow us to take advantage of group discounts for a wide range of information resources and services.

Gifts:

The Library gratefully accepts gifts of materials which are appropriate for its collection and which it does not already own. However, considerable expense is incurred by Western Libraries in the receipt and processing of all materials, including donations. As a result, the Library cannot accept gifts of materials which are not needed to support current teaching and research needs, or which are already 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 active 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.

Fragile material and 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 the Subject Librarian for further details about these criteria.