

Philosophy CD Policy

A. Purpose of Collection

1. Program Information

Philosophy is an undergraduate department consisting of eight full-time faculty members. As such, the courses taught there are on the undergraduate level although there are some undergraduate/graduate and graduate level classes offered in the catalog.

The faculty performs research in several areas including the History of Philosophy, Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Social Science, Metaethics, Philosophy of Religion, Philosophy of Language, 19th century Philosophy, Epistemology, Logic, Early Modern Philosophy, Ancient Philosophy, Ethics, and gender-related issues.

The majority of students from this department go onto prestigious graduate programs.

2. Collection Description

The Philosophy collection consists of paper books, journals, and electronic materials.

Due to the collaboration noted above, the Libraries' collection in the stacks is strong. When checked against the Bibliography in *The Oxford History of Western Philosophy*, the collection came out well as most of the books on the list are in the stacks. (see attached)

Journal access is another story. Although retrospective holdings are good, recent budget cuts have taken their toll on the recent issues. How the advent of databases such as Project Muse, Kluwer, and JSTOR remains to be seen. (see attached for more details)

Format and access can vary as well. Through our electronic packages, the Libraries can get to electronic books through NetLibrary (although this is not a particularly strong area for either the Regent's Collection or our local collection).

3. Anticipated Trends

As with the other areas within the Humanities, two issues drive this matter: access and budgets.

The balance between print and digital access will determine which journals are collected, how quickly the most recent issues are available, and what our archives will look like in the coming years. The rising cost of journal subscriptions will also force decisions in spending for book budgets. Finally, with the acquisition of electronic databases such as the Philosopher's Index, Wilson Web's Humanities Index, JSTOR, and Project Muse, the question needs to be raised: which of these databases are the most essential? What is the preferred method of listing content: full-text or bibliographic (abstract/citations)? Each one has its advantages and disadvantages.

With Philosophy, due to the effective collaboration between the department and the Libraries, the collection is a solid one. This collaboration should continue working together in an equitable fashion. Given the budgetary situation looming in front of the Libraries and WSU in general, this activity will help to pinpoint important books in this discipline as well as helping to keep librarians up to date with the priorities of this department. However, despite this efficiency, one question remains: given the seniority of many members of the Philosophy faculty, will the Libraries have the funds to help new faculty (if/when they are hired) with book purchases in their areas of focus? This area is a concern for the Philosophy CD area.

B. Scope of Coverage

1. Chronological Focus

For Philosophy, the primary chronological areas are Ancient Greece and Rome, the Early Modern, Modern, and Postmodern periods.

Studies of medieval philosophy can be collected depending upon available budgetary resources, the importance of the analyzed work(s) within the History of Philosophy in general and the quality of the scholarship in that work. In any event, that collecting will never exceed D Level as explained in Appendix B.

2. Geographic Focus

The primary geographic foci are U. S., Britain, and Asia. Greece and Rome are collected for Antiquity.

3. Formats and Materials Collected

For Philosophy, the collecting efforts include primary and secondary sources. The following formats are collected: books, some dissertations, journals and serials in addition to e-texts (books, electronically accessible works).

4. Formats and Materials Not Collected

Although the focus will primarily be on those formats and materials noted in Section 3 above, other formats will be considered according to relevance to the overall program, courses of study, areas of faculty research/teaching, and overall continuity of the collection. Such acquisitions will be made with respect to available funds and opportunities.

5. Publication/Imprint Dates

Most purchases will be recently published works although out of print works will also be considered. Retrospective projects conducted between faculty members and the subject librarian will be considered as well depending upon available budget, collection priorities, time involved, and the project scope.

6. Place of Publication

All academic publishers' works are considered. However, some publishers' works will tend to be purchased more often than others. In all cases, the quality of the work not just the publisher or its reputation will determine a purchase.

7. Languages Collected

Most works collected in this field are in English. All secondary materials (unless specifically requested by a faculty member) are in English. Primary sources can be collected in other languages. However again, foreign language sources will be collected primarily in translation where possible. If a faculty member requests that a source be acquired in the original language, every effort will be made to get the work as permitted by availability and available monies.

C. Summary of Subjects Collected and Collecting Levels

These areas are the main collecting areas for Philosophy. For information on existing collection ratings, please refer to the conspectus sheets in **Appendix A**.

Subject	Current Collection Level	LC Class
Philosophy (general)	C2	B
Ancient Philosophy	C1	B
Logic	C2	BC
Speculative Philosophy	D	BD
Aesthetics	D	BH
Ethics	C2	BJ

D. Subjects Excluded

There are no excluded subjects. Although some may only be collected at a minimal (re: level as spelled out in the **Appendix B**.

E. Related Collections and Cooperative Efforts

Any Philosophy collecting effort should interact with those for History, Religion, MCLL, Political Science, Economics, Gender Studies, Astronomy, and English as a subject within the Humanities and/or Social Sciences. In addition, due to Philosophy of Science applications, the Physical Sciences are also tangentially related to this discipline as well.

F. Related Collection Development Policies

Any Philosophy CD policy should interact with those for History, Religion, MCLL, Political Science, Economics, Gender Studies, Astronomy, and English as a subject within the Humanities and/or Social Sciences. In addition, due to Philosophy of Science applications, the Physical Sciences are also tangentially related to this discipline as well.

G. Related Collection Evaluations

See E and F above.

H. Other Factors

Access to Philosophy sources is available through JSTOR, the Philosopher's Index, Project Muse and Wilson Web's Humanities Index.

Appendix A—Specific Subjects Collected (with Collecting Levels)

Appendix B—Explanation of Collecting Levels and Codes