



## Religious Studies Collection Management Policy

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Subject Page: <http://researchguides.case.edu/religion>

### I. Purpose:

This collection supports the teaching and research needs of the faculty of the Department of Religious Studies at Case Western Reserve University. The collection also supports the teaching and research needs activities of other Case departments and centers such as the Samuel Rosenthal Center for Judaic Studies. Faculty members in the department are engaged in scholarly research and writing, as well as editorial work. The collection, which is one of the oldest and best in Northeastern Ohio, is a major resource for other colleges and universities in the area. The collection supports the study of Religious beliefs, institutions, comparative philosophy of religion, method and theory, and practices that are studied in the Department of Religious Studies. The collection also provides a broad base of support for the study of religion in context of film, fiction, social customs and institutions, and popular culture in America. Special consideration will be given to purchases to support the Samuel Rosenthal Center for Judaic Studies.

The collection reflects the co-disciplinary study of ethics and gender studies. The current department program leads to the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Religion or the Master of Arts (M.A.).

### II. General Collection Guidelines:

- A. Languages:** English will be the primary language of collection, including translations. Collections in foreign languages (Hebrew, Arabic, etc) will be acquired selectively, typically upon faculty or student request. Landmark studies and writings will be collected by major authors regardless of language.
- B. Chronological Guidelines:** There are no specific chronological limits. Material relevant to the study of religious thought in any period may be collected.
- C. Geographical Guidelines:** Emphasis is on the United States, Western Europe, the Middle East, and Asia. Judaic Studies is of importance to the Samuel Rosenthal Center for Judaic Studies at Case.
- D. Treatment of Subject:** Biographies of major religious figures will be collected selectively. History of religion and individual religions will be collected *broadly*. Practical theology (i.e.



- Sermons and Homilies) will not be collected. Lower division textbooks are excluded from purchase while popular works and upper level textbooks are purchased selectively. Works on religious views of cultural significance will also be selectively collected. Works by current and emeriti faculty will be collected.
- E. Types of Materials:** Monographs comprise the majority of the collection, including encyclopedias and dictionaries of religion, Bible concordances and commentaries, Bible texts, atlases, dictionaries, yearbooks, and bibliographies. Journals are collected in both print and electronic formats. Indexes, and abstracts in the form of research databases (preferably full text), CD-ROMS, videos, and DVDs are also collected. Small selections of materials take the form of government documents or microform materials. Audio materials are seldom collected. Proceedings or reports of conferences, symposia, international congresses, etc. will be purchased selectively and mainly through standing orders. Theses and dissertations from other institutions will be purchased by request only.
- F. Dates of Publication:** Primary emphasis will be on the acquisition of current materials. Retrospective materials are purchased selectively and upon faculty request.
- G. Deselection:** Since the collection is considered a research collection, deselection is done with great care. Special consideration is given to the relevance of older materials to the study of religion. Items that are the last copy in the OhioLINK consortium will not be withdrawn. Older or fragile materials that cannot be deselected are considered for relocation to remote storage- either on campus at our Retrospective Research Collection Center or at Iron Mountain.
- H. Cooperative and Related Collections:** Case is a founding member of OhioLINK, the Ohio Library and Information Network. OhioLINK is a statewide consortium of public and private colleges and universities, the State Library of Ohio, and technical and community colleges supporting a combined central catalog of statewide holdings, selected online indexes, full-text databases, reference tools, ebooks and image collections. OhioLINK's goal is to provide easy access to information and rapid delivery of library materials throughout the state. Collection development decisions regarding shared electronic resources are made through the OhioLINK Cooperative Information Resources Management (CIRM) Committee.
- I. Other General Considerations:** The study of religion relates to many disciplines including Classics, Philosophy, History, Asian Studies, Ethics, Sociology, Anthropology and Women's Studies. Cooperative collection development is done with other Case Collection managers principally in the areas of literature, history, religious aspects of art, and philosophy.
- J. Electronic Resources:** ATLA Religion Database with ATLA Serials, Bible In English, Index to Jewish Periodicals, Encyclopedia Judaica.



**III. Observations and Qualifications by Subject and LC Class:**

**CDP Levels:**

- A. Minimal Level:** Indicates that only highly selective purchases – usually materials for reference use, general interest, or for the support of a very specific research need—will be made.
- B. Instructional Level:** Indicates that standard works and selected current works will be required to support undergraduate and most graduate instruction or sustained independent study. This will include reference and fundamental bibliographic tools pertaining to the subject and a selection of representative journals. Retrospective purchasing is usually limited to standard works.
- C. General Research Level:** Indicates that the library will acquire most of the materials required to support research through the doctoral degree level and the general research needs of the faculty. Allows for retrospective purchasing depending upon the characteristics and needs of the individual disciplines and their state of development in the collection.
- D. Comprehensive Level:** Indicates that all currently-published relevant materials will be acquired. Involves extensive programs of retrospective purchasing and searching for lacunae.
- E. Intensive Level:** Indicates the library will strive to acquire all appropriate current and retrospective written or recorded materials in all languages, editions, translations, and formats; manuscripts and other archival materials are acquired extensively. This level is appropriate for the creation or maintenance of a collection serving a national bibliographic resource.

Subject	LC Class	Location	CDP [NCIP] Collection Level	Collection Manager	Collection Notes
<b>Religion:</b> Philosophy, History and principles, religious doctrines	BL 1-2790	KSL	C	Gravius	
<b>Judaism:</b> History, principles, rites, customs, traditions, practical Judaism, Modern Jewish Thought	BM 1-990	KSL	C	Gravius	
Islam, Bahaism, Theosophy, etc	BP 1-610		C	Gravius	
Buddhism	BQ 1-9800		B/C	Gravius	
Christianity	BR 1-1725	KSL	C	Gravius	
Bible, Exegesis	BS 410-680	KSL	C	Gravius	
Doctrinal Theology	BT 10-	KSL	C	Gravius	



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Practical Theology	BV 1-5099	KSL	B	Gravius	
Christian Denominations, Sects	BX 1-9999	KSL	C	Gravius	
Religious aspects of Art		KSL	A/B	Sievers/Gravius	
Religious aspects of psychology		KSL	B	Finley/Gravius	
Religious aspects of philosophy		KSL	B	Oye/Gravius	
Comparative Religion		KSL	B	Gravius	
Folklore	BQ 5725-5845	KSL	B	Gravius	

This document will be reviewed on an annual basis or with significant departmental program changes.

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