

# Information Services Collection Policy: Theology and Religious Studies

---

Author(s):	Jon Hoover and Neil Smyth
Audience:	University of Nottingham
Service:	Library Collection Policies
First Published:	28/09/2010
Reviewed:	02/09/2010
Revised:	23/09/2010
Next review:	09/03/2011

## Contents

1.	Introduction .....	2
2.	Overview .....	2
2.1.	Collections .....	2
2.2.	Global library collections .....	3
3.	Mechanisms for implementation of the policy.....	3
3.1.	Scope of the current policy.....	3
3.2.	Provision.....	3
3.3.	Funds for acquisition .....	4
3.4.	Selection and recommendation mechanisms .....	4
3.5.	Ordering and receipt mechanisms .....	5
3.6.	Donations .....	5
3.7.	Classification and storage .....	5
3.8.	Subject resources.....	6
3.9.	Journals.....	6
3.10.	Conference proceedings.....	7
3.11.	Standing orders .....	7
3.12.	Theses and eDissertations .....	8
3.13.	Balance between printed and electronic resources.....	8

# POLICY

3.14.	Reading lists.....	8
3.15.	Short Loan Collections.....	9
3.15.1.	Books .....	9
3.15.2.	Photocopies .....	9
3.15.3.	Digitised copies .....	9
3.15.4.	DVDs .....	9
3.16.	Binding.....	9
3.17.	Expensive and interdisciplinary items.....	9
3.18.	Collection management.....	10
3.19.	Collection development .....	10
3.20.	Information Literacy .....	10
3.21.	Department of Manuscripts and Special Collections .....	10

## 1. Introduction

Information Services holds and provides access to information resources to support the research, learning, teaching and business activities of the University. For the same purposes, but also in support of the actual and potential interests of the local, regional, national and international research community, the library holds and provides access to Manuscript and Special Collections.

## 2. Overview

### 2.1. Collections

Information Services aims to provide information resources to fit the priorities of Theology and Religious Studies, within practical and budgetary constraints. Information Services will attempt to acquire sufficient material for undergraduate and taught postgraduate courses. It also aims to hold key materials which support the research activities of the School.

Library collections include, but are not limited to, the following types of information resources:

- printed material, including books, pamphlets, journals, newspapers, music, maps etc
- eBooks and eJournals
- electronic databases
- photocopies and electronic copies
- photographs
- multimedia materials
- microforms
- manuscripts

# POLICY

- sound, video and film recordings.

Information resources are provided under the following arrangements:

- owned by the University and
- managed by Information Services
- licenses or other permission from the rights holder
- partnerships and other collaborative arrangements
- public domain resources.

## 2.2. Global library collections

Information Services is managing a global collection.

Many items required by users will not be available in the library collections of the University of Nottingham. Efforts will be made to obtain access to such items through Inter-Library Loan or other document delivery services. The cost of such requests, up to a certain quota, will be subsidised by Information Services, though a nominal fee will be charged. The fee for requests in excess of the quota, however, will approximate the full cost, excluding staffing and administrative costs.

## 3. Mechanisms for implementation of the policy

### 3.1. Scope of the current policy

The policy is to acquire materials on all aspects of Theology and Religious Studies and Film and Television Studies relevant to the learning, teaching and research carried out in the school. In addition materials will be acquired which build on the strengths within the Theology and Religious Studies and Film and Television Studies collections in order to maintain their local and regional importance and to provide a broad, balanced collection for further research and project work.

The policy is to be monitored by the Faculty Team Leader, Faculty Team Librarian, Senior Information Assistants and the Library Liaison Representatives. Each year the policy will be reviewed and, if necessary, revised by a member of the Arts Faculty Team and the Library Liaison Representatives for Theology and Religious Studies.

### 3.2. Provision

Material will be purchased to support the current teaching and research interests within the department. Particular subject areas relevant to teaching and learning include the following:

- Hebrew Bible, New Testament and Qur'an
- Historical, Systematic and Philosophical Theology
- Church History in Britain and Ireland

# POLICY

- Theology in relation to literature, philosophy, politics, economics and natural science
- Hermeneutics, Philosophy of Religion, and Theory of Religion
- Islamic Studies
- Jewish Studies
- Buddhism and Hinduism

Where there is overlapping interest or joint research projects with other departments, schools and faculties, the Arts Faculty Team will collaborate with colleagues to ensure provision of relevant material.

### 3.3. Funds for acquisition

Funds which may be used for purchase of materials for Theology and Religious Studies are:

- the departmental book fund
- bids for a share of funding to support new modules/new lecturers.

The level of funding will be communicated to the department each year as early as possible via the School Library Liaison Representatives. The representatives will be regularly informed of the status of the fund. Updates can be obtained at other times as required from the Arts Faculty Team.

### 3.4. Selection and recommendation mechanisms

The following tools are used for selection of resources:

- information received from module convenors and contributing lecturers
- communications and suggestions from the school, through the book suggestions web page
- publishers' and booksellers' catalogues (print or online); Dawson's EnterBooks
- current awareness listings e.g. Coutts Library Services profile reports

The Arts Faculty Team is also alerted to heavily reserved items or items reported missing or damaged. The Arts Faculty Team is responsible for ordering extra copies or replacing these items, through separate budgets.

Information Services also relies on academic staff for book suggestions. The books suggestions form is available online:

[www.nottingham.ac.uk/is/uon/forms/book-suggestions.php](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/is/uon/forms/book-suggestions.php)

# POLICY

## 3.5. Ordering and receipt mechanisms

Items are ordered by the Arts Faculty Team or centrally by the Acquisitions department and are recorded on the Library Management System. Urgent orders are normally sent within five working days; all orders are sent in accordance with Key Performance Indicators.

Items currently on order are displayed on the Library Online Catalogue. Reservations may be placed on items at any stage. Further information regarding items on order can be obtained from the Arts Faculty Team.

The Arts Faculty Team can be contacted for further information on progress.

## 3.6. Donations

The collections have, over the years, been enhanced by donations. Donations will normally be added to stock only if relevant to the current teaching or research profile or if they strengthen existing specialist areas. Substantial donations must be notified to, and agreed with, the Arts Faculty Team Leader or the Arts Faculty Team Librarian before delivery.

There is a separate Donations Policy.

## 3.7. Classification and storage

Items acquired will be stored in the most appropriate library and classified in the appropriate subject area. Items may occasionally be duplicated between libraries.

Items are classified according to Library of Congress classification. A copy of this can be consulted online from the Library of Congress web site: [www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov).

Periodicals are arranged in classification order in the current periodicals display (level 2 of the Hallward Library) and on the mobile shelving (level 4 of the Hallward Library).

Extra copies of books which are in heavy demand are bought where they are available. These may be stored on the main shelves as ordinary loan or in the Short Loan Collection.

The classification scheme used in the Short Loan Collection is the same as on the main shelves.

Material which is fragile or less-heavily used may be placed at the King's Meadow Campus. The library online catalogue may be used to request items at the King's Meadow Campus, which will normally be made available within two working days. Items in the local library stores and rare books areas are available for consultation and in some cases may be borrowed. This material can be consulted (and, in most cases, borrowed) during staffed library opening hours on request at the main lending desk.

# POLICY

## 3.8. Subject resources

Important printed and electronic resources of interest to Theology and Religious Studies are available through the eLibrary Gateway. These resources include bibliographic databases, internet subject gateways, full text resources and electronic journals.

The following resources are of particular relevance to Theology and Religious Studies:

- 19th Century UK Periodicals Online Series 2
- Acta Sanctorum
- Arts and Humanities Citation Index
- ATLA Religion Database
- BBIH: Bibliography of British and Irish History
- BookData Online
- British History Online
- British Humanities Index (CSA)
- Cambridge Companions Online
- Digital Library of Classic Protestant Texts
- Digital Library of the Catholic Reformation
- Early English Books Online (EEBO)
- ECCO
- Encyclopedia of death and the human experience
- Encyclopaedia of Islam
- Encyclopedia of Jews in the Islamic World
- Encyclopedia of Religion
- Encyclopaedia of the Qurān
- Gerritsen Collection
- Handbook of Pragmatics
- Index Islamicus
- Index to Theses
- International Encyclopedia of Revolution and Protest - 1500 to the present
- International Medieval Bibliography
- Nexis – News and Business
- Oxford Dictionary of National Biography
- Oxford English Dictionary Online
- Oxford Reference Online
- Oxford Scholarship Online
- Patrologia Latina
- Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy
- TLS centenary archive
- Ulrich's Periodicals Directory (Bowker)
- Web of Knowledge (ISI)
- Worldcat
- Zetoc

## 3.9. Journals

Journal price inflation is consistently higher than average inflation. This means Information Services is unable to invest in new print journal titles at present without a balancing cancellation. Journal subscriptions are reviewed at the Arts Faculty Library User Group.

The school has an interest in the following e-journal packages:

- Brill Journal Archive
- Cambridge Journals Online
- IngentaConnect
- JSTOR
- Nottingham ePrints

# POLICY

- Oxford University Press (Journals)
- Project Muse Database
- SAGE Journals Online Database
- Springer Database
- SwetsWise Database
- University of Chicago Database
- Wiley Online Library Journals

Theses and other individual electronic journals may be accessed via the eLibrary Gateway or the library online catalogue (UNLOC).

## 3.10. Conference proceedings

Where conference proceedings contribute substantial information to the subject they may be acquired.

## 3.11. Standing orders

Information Services recognises the importance of continuing commitment to major monographs in series and attempts to maintain these where appropriate. These titles will be reviewed to match changing teaching and research profiles.

The current standing orders for Theology and Religious Studies are:

- Acta Sanctorum
- Barth – Gesamtausgabe
- Botterweck - Theological Dictionary of the Old Testament
- Canons of the Church of England
- Commentaire de L'Ancien Testament
- Corpus Christianorum - Series Apocryphorum
- Corpus Christianorum - Series Latina
- Dictionnaire de la Bible Supplements
- Dictionnaire D'Histoire et de Geographie Ecclesiastique
- Dr. Williams's Library Lectures
- Dr. Williams's Library Occasional Papers
- Duns Scotus - Opera Omnia
- Fathers of the Church
- Gregory of Nyssa - Opera
- Handbuch zum Altern Testament
- Handbuch zum Neuen Testament
- Henry Bradshaw Society Publications
- Luther - Werke - Kritische Gesamtausgabe
- New Documents Illustrating Early Christianity
- New International Greek Testament Commentary
- Oxford Early Christian Texts
- Patrologia Orientalis
- Peshitta - The Old Testament in Syriac
- Schleiermacher - Kritische Gesamtausgabe
- Septuaginta Vetus Testamentum Graecum
- Society for New Testament Studies

# POLICY

- Studia Patristica
- Studies in Church History
- Vetus Latina - Aus der geschichte der lateinischen bibel
- Vetus Latina - Die Reste der Altlateinischen Bibel

The School also has an interest in the following general Arts Faculty standing orders:

- Acta Conciliorum Oecumenicorum
- Calendar of entries in the papal registers ...
- Encyclopedia of Christianity
- Nietzsche - Werke
- Reallexikon für Antike und Christentum
- Wesley - The Works of John Wesley

## 3.12. Theses and eDissertations

Printed copies of PhD theses are kept in the King's Meadow Campus library collections. Theses may also be submitted to the library electronically. For more information see: <http://etheses.nottingham.ac.uk>.

## 3.13. Balance between printed and electronic resources

Information Services seeks to provide access to new electronic resources where appropriate, whilst taking care to monitor the balance between printed and electronic resources.

## 3.14. Reading lists

In order to ensure copies of recommended texts can be obtained in time for relevant modules, readings lists should be submitted by academic staff to the library 10 weeks before the start of the Semester, usually no later than 15 July for Semester 1 and 15 November for Semester 2. Module convenors should indicate on reading lists which books should be in short loan.

Reading lists should include details of author, title, edition (where applicable), year of publication, publisher and ideally place of publication and ISBN. A note of the expected number of students on the module should also be included.

Reading lists should only be sent to the Arts Faculty Team if there are amendments and additions, including journal articles that are not part of existing collection. We will need to obtain print or electronic copies of journal articles. Deletions from existing reading lists should be highlighted.

Module convenors should inform the Arts Faculty Team when modules cease so that the online reading list can be deleted.

Module convenors are encouraged to make reading lists available online at: [www.nottingham.ac.uk/is/gateway/readinglists](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/is/gateway/readinglists).

# POLICY

When possible, Information Services will recruit temporary staff in the summer to support this activity.

## 3.15. Short Loan Collections

### 3.15.1. Books

The number of copies of a book ordered for the main shelves or Short Loan Collection will depend on factors such as:

- the number of students (and whether full- or part-time) on the module(s) for which it is recommended
- the length of reading list and/or prioritisation of the items on the list
- experience of usage of books recommended for modules within the department or specialism
- likely longevity of the module
- cost
- frequency of new editions and relevance of previous editions
- existence of online full-text versions
- overlap with other modules.

Use of books is monitored and extra copies are purchased as necessary.

### 3.15.2. Photocopies

Photocopies of journal articles may also be held in the Short Loan Collection provided they are within permitted limits. Photocopies from originals within the library's own collection can be placed in the Short Loan Collection, provided the publisher participates in the Copyright Licensing Agency agreement. Any other material has to be obtained via the British Library copyright fee-paid service using the Inter-library Loan service.

### 3.15.3. Digitised copies

Documents covered by the terms of the Higher Education Scanning Licence, or for which separate permission has been obtained from copyright holders, may be acquired and made available in digitised form for students to access via the online reading lists.

### 3.15.4. DVDs

DVDs will be held in the Short Loan Collection.

## 3.16. Binding

Binding of material in the collections is supported from the binding fund. Titles selected for binding will be reviewed from time to time to ensure the preservation of heavily-used periodicals.

## 3.17. Expensive and interdisciplinary items

# POLICY

Expensive items, reference works, and items of an interdisciplinary nature can be recommended by academic staff and may be funded in full or in part by Theology and Religious Studies book fund. The Faculty Team Leader and Faculty Librarians will liaise with colleagues in other subject areas where there is an overlap of interest.

## 3.18. Collection management

The collection is regularly monitored and the Relegation Policy is available online: [www.nottingham.ac.uk/is/about/policies/documents/library-collections-relegation-policy.pdf](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/is/about/policies/documents/library-collections-relegation-policy.pdf)

## 3.19. Collection development

The collection will be developed to support research activity in Theology and Religious Studies. Where it is appropriate, the collection will complement local and regional collections. The Arts Faculty Team will consider active participation with national collection management initiatives.

## 3.20. Information Literacy

The collection will be supported through information literacy sessions provided by the Arts Faculty Team, including induction, longer sessions arranged through the Graduate School and tailored sessions for Theology and Religious Studies.

Pathway2Information will give staff and students general study skills guidance and support. These pages are available online: [www.nottingham.ac.uk/pathways](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/pathways)

## 3.21. Department of Manuscripts and Special Collections

This policy does not cover, in any detail, the work of the Department of Manuscripts and Special Collections within Information Services, whose holdings complement and extend core library collections. For advice on the department's collection policies, see [mss.library.nottingham.ac.uk](http://mss.library.nottingham.ac.uk).