1. General Information

The Political Science Collection Policy is bound by the general principles detailed in the Library’s Overarching Collection Policy. It is not a stand-alone document and should be read in conjunction with the Library’s Overarching Collection Policy and any other relevant subject specific collection documents.

1.1 Collection Purpose

The emphasis at the University of Waikato is on the study of political science from the perspectives of comparative politics, international relations, security studies, political theory and public policy.

1.2 Primary User Groups

The collection supports the teaching, research and learning needs of staff and students in the Political Science and Public Policy Programme in the School of Social Sciences, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, at undergraduate, honours, graduate, postgraduate, masters and PhD levels.

1.3 The Department’s research interests include:

- comparative policy studies
- contemporary political philosophy
- employment and environmental policy
- Holocaust denial
- the Middle East
- New Zealand and Asia
- New Zealand and Australian defence policy
- New Zealand and the EU
- New Zealand government and politics
- New Zealand race and ethnic relations
- nuclear power and security
- political violence, war crimes, morals and pacifist theory
- women, culture, development and environment

1.4 Interdisciplinary Relationships

The collection also supports relevant courses and research in other School of Social Sciences programmes and in Law.

2. Description of Existing Collection
Relevant material is held in the following LC classification areas in the Central Library’s general collection:

- **J** General legislative papers
- **JA** Political science
- **JC** Political theory
- **JF** Public administration – General
- **JK** Public administration – United States
- **JL** Public administration – The Americas
- **JN** Public administration – Europe
- **JQ** Public administration – New Zealand, Australia and miscellaneous regions
- **JS** Local government
- **JV** Emigration and immigration
- **JX** International law (see below)
- **JZ** International relations

Material relating solely to law is held in the Law Library. Material whose subject focuses on New Zealand is held in the New Zealand Collection.

Increasingly e-books are being purchased.

The Library provides access to a strong collection of scholarly journals, electronically or in print, and to relevant databases and indexing and abstracting tools including:

- APA-FT
- Asia-Studies Full-Text Online
- Europa World Online
- International Political Science Abstracts
- Web of Science
- JSTOR
- Proquest Social Sciences
- Scopus
- Times Digital Archive
- United Nations Treaty Collection
- World History in Context

In general coverage amongst topics in the collection is relatively even. An exception is the Americas, although material on Latin America has been built up over the last few years. Overall, political science and public policy are extremely wide ranging subjects and coverage cannot encompass the full range of topics within a limited budget.

3. **Scope of Collecting**

Emphasis is on undergraduate and graduate texts, research monographs, professional society publications and journals. Reference works and conference proceedings are collected selectively. Popular political science or general interest works, biographies, festschriften and histories are not normally collected.

3.1 **Chronological Periods**
Collecting focuses on contemporary political science and public policy, although no chronological period is specifically excluded. Works relating to historical political thinkers and political life in the ancient world are collected selectively.

3.2 Types of Material
Print and/or electronic formats are collected but other types of material may be considered.

3.3 Geographical Areas
Collecting focuses on Asia, the Middle East, New Zealand, the United States and international comparisons. Works on Great Britain are collected selectively.

3.4 Languages
English is the primary language of the collection.

3.5 Publication Dates
Collecting focuses upon recent and current imprints to support the teaching and research areas of the Department. Retrospective collecting may be undertaken to support new teaching and research programmes.

4. University of Waikato at Tauranga
Political Science is not currently being taught at Tauranga and no courses are planned.