Psychology

Responsibility for Policy: Jillene Bydder
Approving Authority: University Librarian
Approved: September 2014
Next Review Date: September 2016

1. General Information

The School of Psychology’s 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 Psychology as a behavioural, social, and biological and cognitive science encompassing development, personality, learning and motivation. The School has a strong reputation for the applied nature of its research.

The Psychology collection (BF of the Library of Congress classification schedule) supports the teaching, research and learning needs of staff and students in the School of Psychology, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences. Owing to the extensive overlap with other disciplines, material on psychology may be classified outside BF. For instance, material on vision and perception is classified at QP.

1.2 Primary User Groups

The primary users of the collection are undergraduates, graduates and staff of the School, which is part of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

1.3 The School’s research interests include:

- animal behaviour and welfare
- behaviour analysis
- child rearing
- clinical psychology
- cognitive psychology
- community psychology
- cross-cultural psychology
- organisational psychology
- social psychology
- conversation and discourse analysis
- feminist issues
- human factors
- road safety
- recovery from head injury and strokes
- Māori and psychology
- migration research
- perception
- health
- domestic violence
- environmental sustainability
• correctional psychology
• qualitative research
• psychological approaches to a wide range of social and community issues.

1.4 Interdisciplinary Relationships
The psychology collection is very heavily used. Students studying almost all other disciplines may make use of it. The BSocSci and BSc degrees are heavily interdisciplinary and the collection is also used by those studying education, geography, human development, management, social science research, cognitive linguistics and sociology.

2. Description of Existing Collection
In general, broad topics and general works are fairly well covered. The collection is particularly strong in the areas of behaviour and animal behaviour and in material supporting clinical psychology.

The collection includes multiple copies of undergraduate texts. The latest editions of undergraduate textbooks are actively purchased in consultation with academic staff.

Where available, reference works are available online, for instance Comprehensive Clinical Psychology. Increasingly e-books are being purchased.

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

• Current Contents Connect
• Web of Science
• Proquest Social Sciences
• PsycARTICLES
• PsycEXTRA
• PsycINFO
• Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection
• PubMed
• Mental Measurement Yearbook
• Scopus

3. Scope of Collecting
Emphasis is on undergraduate level and graduate texts, research monographs, professional society publications, and journals.

Reference works and conference proceedings are collected selectively. Popular psychology or general interest works, biographies and histories are not normally collected. Patents, preprints, and laboratory manuals are not collected.

3.1 Chronological Periods
Although no chronological period is excluded, emphasis is on the study of modern psychology.

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

3.3 Geographical Areas
The geographic area is not relevant to the majority of the papers offered. However, collecting local material is important, as teaching and research within the School pays particular attention to the social and cultural context.

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 School. Retrospective collecting may be undertaken to support new teaching and research programmes.

4. University of Waikato at Tauranga Collection

Psychology is offered at Tauranga up to and including Level 3 papers. As an interdisciplinary subject, undergraduates studying management, social sciences and education in particular will also make use of the psychology collection. Responsibility for this collection lies with the academic staff concerned and the Subject Librarian.