Collection Development Policy Statement for Arabic Studies

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I. Purpose

The University of Maryland Libraries select materials that support courses and programs in Arabic studies offered for the research, teaching, and scholarship of faculty and students. A Bachelor of Arts or a minor in Arabic Studies are offered through the School of Languages, Literature and Cultures, as well as other courses and programs help students explore and become skilled in a better understanding of the Arab world.

Coordination and Cooperative Information: Arabic studies overlaps various subject areas including history, linguistics, women’s studies, sociology, literature, and religious studies, to name a few. There are many occasions where resource materials needed by faculty and/or students are available through the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) consortial service (UBorrow), the University System of Maryland and Affiliated Institutions (USMAI) and, on occasion, in HathiTrust.

Diversity: The Arabic Studies collections include materials and resources that reflect a variety of literary, cultural, political, religious, and sexual issues and support intellectual freedom by providing free access to all expressions of ideas through which any and all sides of a question, cause, or movement may be explored.

II. Summary of Collection Scope at Current Collecting Levels

Our current collection has grown within the last 5 years due to the libraries’ inclusion in a 3-year federal grant through the College of Arts and Humanities at UMD in 2009. Print monographs representing the great works of noted Arabic authors and poets, along with critical Reference works are located in McKeldin Library, and a substantial collection of audio visual materials that support the department’s emphasis on studying Arabic culture through visual methodologies are housed in Hornbake’s Library Media Services unit. Currently, the Arabic Studies selector is directing focus on electronic versions of reference works, eBook collections, and various databases to meet the research and instructional needs of a wider audience of library users who are engaged in the Arabic Studies Department’s course offerings.

III. Developing the Arabic Studies Collection

1. Language(s): Emphasis is on Arabic language materials in the collection. Major works covering the subject are selected, with some English translations available. Materials in other languages with references to Arabic are generally in the purview of the selectors responsible for those languages.
2. **Geographical areas:** The major focus of items in the collection surround Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Palestine, Israel, Syria, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Algeria, Morocco, and the United States, with curricular and research interests in the discipline making works on other countries in the region a growing focus.

3. **Chronological periods/Imprint dates:** Selection will emphasize current publications, with the exception of reprints and classic works that are lacking in the general collection.

4. **Materials selected**

   **Included materials:**

   Monographs, periodicals, databases, audio/visual materials, and ephemera are acquired on a selective basis.

   **Excluded materials:**

   Photocopies, juvenile materials, and textbooks.

IV. **Additional Collection Information**


**Implementation and Revision Schedule:** This policy has been reviewed by the Collection Development Council (lib-cdc@umd.edu) and is considered effective on the date indicated below. It will be reexamined regularly by the subject specialist and will be revised as needed to reflect new collection needs and identify new areas of study, as well as those areas that may be excluded.

Date: 02/23/2015 CS; rev. CS 5/26/15  
CDC 6/23/15