

Collection Development Policy Statement for Arabic Studies

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I. Purpose

The Arabic Studies collection of the University of Maryland Libraries supports the educational mission of the School of Languages, Literature, and Cultures. The collections supplement the School's curriculum, as well as serve the research needs of undergraduate students and faculty. The School is a transdisciplinary teaching and research unit. The students, faculty, and staff investigate and engage with the linguistic, cultural, cinematic, and literary worlds of speakers of Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish, as well as questions surrounding language learning itself.

The Arabic language curriculum is designed for second language acquisition and targets non-native speakers. None of the Arabic language courses are open to fluent and native speakers of Arabic. The program provides research in the study and teaching of Modern Standard Arabic, Egyptian Dialect, Levantine Dialect; cultures, literatures, cinemas of Arab World; linguistics.

The School of Languages, Literature, and Cultures offers B.A. degrees, including a Minor and Major in Arabic.

- *B.A. in Arabic* offers a 42-credit major in Arabic Studies provides students with a solid background in the linguistic, literary, and cultural aspects of the modern Arab World, including the North Africa, Egypt, the Arab Middle East, and the Arab diasporas in the U.S. and Europe, as well as minority communities in Arab countries (Armenian, Kurdish, Berber, Copts, etc.).
- *Minor in Arabic* offers a 21-credit minor in Arabic provides grounding in Modern Standard Arabic and colloquial Arabic. Students who satisfy the requirements of the minor in Arabic can expect to be able to read, write, and communicate orally in Modern Standard Arabic and one of the Arabic dialects at a level that would allow them to interact with native speakers and perform effectively in a daily environment; watch TV and films in Arabic; engage with authentic texts; write short papers in Arabic; and perform other tasks expected from an Advanced Level learner.
- *UG Flagship* is one of only seven Arabic Flagships in the nation, with the mission to create the next generation of global professionals who speak Arabic at a professional level and possess deep knowledge about the many cultures of the modern Middle East. The Flagship program combines intensive study in the US (both academic year and summer programs), with cultural activities, field trips, language partners for one to one practice, and a wide array of specially designed workshops to help our students learn Arabic and to practice what they learn, including well-articulated periods of immersion overseas in Morocco.

- **Coordination and Cooperative Information:** Arabic studies overlaps with 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 Big Ten Academic Alliance (BTAA) consortial service (UBorrow), the University System of Maryland and Affiliated Institutions (USMAI) and, on occasion, in HathiTrust.

Researchers can rely on a number of national and international library research networks, and other consortia as needed, among them:

- The Center for Research Libraries (CRL) – an international consortium of university, college, and independent research libraries. <https://www.crl.edu/about>
- The Big Ten Academic Alliance (BTAA) – is the nation's preeminent model for effective collaboration among research universities. <https://www.btaa.org/>
- The Chesapeake Information and Research Library Alliance (CIRLA) – is a voluntary, not-for-profit organization of educational and research institutions in Delaware, the District of Columbia, and Maryland, which are members of the Association of Research Libraries and been accepted for membership. <http://www.cirla.org/>

Diversity: Recognizing that the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures incorporates individuals of all ages who represent a multiplicity of racial and ethnic backgrounds, economic and educational levels and physical and mental abilities, the subject specialists build collections that mirror and support this diversity. The School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures collections include materials and resources that reflect a variety of political, economic, religious, social, minority 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. For more information, see the University of Maryland, Collection Development Diversity Statement at <https://www.lib.umd.edu/collections/policies/collection-development-diversitystatement>.

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. In addition, a substantial collection of audio visual materials that support the department's emphasis on studying Arabic culture through visual methodologies are housed at the Hornbake Library Media Services unit. Currently, the Arabic Studies subject specialist 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 program and 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 subject specialists 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

The Arabic Studies collection adheres to the University of Maryland Libraries' policies for duplication, gifts, deselection and preservation available at <http://www.lib.umd.edu/collections/collection-development-policy>.

1. Duplication: There are instances where faculty request both print and electronic copies of individual titles, though duplication of items is not a regular practice.
2. Gifts: Gift items added to the Business collection are done so in conjunction with the University of Maryland Libraries Gifts-In-Kind Policy, particularly so that they "supplement existing collections in support of the University's teaching and research programs as well as to provide the University Libraries with special materials in which there is a scholarly interest" (<http://www.lib.umd.edu/collections/gifts/for-donors>). The subject specialists for Business are ultimately responsible for deciding whether or not a gift is added to the collection.

3. Deselection/Withdrawal: The relevance of materials in the Business collection can and will change over time. Periodic weeding of the collection is done to identify items which no longer fit the criteria for inclusion in the collection.
4. Preservation: The subject specialist will work with the Preservation unit at the University of Maryland Libraries when individual titles are brought to their attention that need rebinding, repair or replacement.

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. ZD 1/17/19

CDC 2/5/19