

Collection Development Policy Statement for Fine Art

Subject Specialist responsible: Patricia Kosco Cossard, Art/Sociology Librarian, 301-405-9065, pcossard@umd.edu

I. Purpose:

- a. The Fine Art collection supports the teaching and learning of the Department of Art in the College of Arts & Humanities as stated in the Department's mission statement "provides students with the technical and conceptual tools needed to make innovative contributions to a visual culture in which traditional boundaries between the visual arts, design, film, video, and architecture have become increasingly blurred. (Note: For the purpose of this Policy Statement, the Fine Art collection represents the Libraries' collections in Fine Arts.) The department's creative environment encourages creative problem solving, interdisciplinary experimentation, and the production of images, objects, and experiences that reflect a sophisticated visual literacy. From a shared foundation emphasizing traditional fundamentals of art and design, students move into media concentrations that encourage interdisciplinary interaction, particularly in developing digital technologies" [<http://www.art.umd.edu/>].
- b. **Degrees:**
 - i. The Department of Art offers a Bachelors of Art degree with courses in the areas of painting, sculpture, digital media, printmaking, video, art theory, photography, and graphic design. Students are expected to develop a strong artistic voice based upon an understanding of contemporary art-critical practices as well as an in-depth understanding of the technical skills needed to create compelling contemporary art.
 - ii. The Department also offers an Honors Program to a select number of upper-level undergraduate Studio Art majors. This competitive program allows students the chance to work in private studios, partake in the Honors Seminar and participate in the Honors Thesis Exhibition during their senior year.
 - iii. The Masters of Fine Arts (MFA) program is a 3-year inter-disciplinary program of study focusing squarely on studio practice. Students admitted into the program are provided a spacious private studio and access to state-of-the-art facilities in sculpture, digital-media, and printmaking. MFA candidates work on an individual basis with faculty. In addition, the MFA program emphasizes the need for strong conceptual and theoretical understanding of contemporary art practices. Bolstered by an active visiting artist lecture series and a graduate colloquium which brings in regional and national scholars and critics on an annual basis, to work with MFA candidates, students in the program are expected to not only to maintain a strong studio practice, but to develop and strengthen the critical and conceptual discourse around which they create their work.
- c. **Coordination and Cooperative Information:**
 - i. Fine Art is an inter-disciplinary program of study, incorporating art, art history, architecture, computer science, engineering, film & media studies, performing art, and theater. The Art Librarian works with the librarian specialists in these areas as requests arise. The subject specialist also works with the Library Media Services Librarian to manage requests for media that arise.
 - ii. All fifteen members of the Big Ten Academic Alliance (BTAA) have MFA programs. All students and faculty have access to the UBorrow service

(<http://www.lib.umd.edu/access/uborrow>) enabling access to materials from 15 university libraries in the BTAA and the Center for Research Libraries (CRL).

- d. **Diversity:** Recognizing that art 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 specialist/s build collections that mirror and support this diversity. The art 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. (Text adapted from: <https://www.carnegielibrary.org/about/policies/collection-development-and-management/>)

II. Summary of Collection Scope at Current Collecting Levels

- a. The Art collection resides in the branch library located within the Art/Sociology Department. Less used items from the Art Collection are stored in Off-site Storage. Some supplemental materials are located in McKeldin Library. Art special collections are available through the Maryland Room in Hornbake Library. Departmental theses in print are available through the Maryland Room in Hornbake Library, while the same have been digitally available since 2004 through the Digital Repository of the University of Maryland (DRUM).

III. Developing the Art Collection

- a. Language(s): Art is primarily a visual discipline, therefore, language is irrelevant when collecting. Art Theory and criticism for Fine Art is collected in all European languages.
- b. Geographical areas: The discipline of art is culturally diverse and by necessity the collections represent art and art theory globally.
- c. Chronological periods/Imprint dates: All periods are selected.
- d. Materials selected
 - i. Included materials: Materials selected for the collection are predominately monograph and serial format. Monographs are selected in both print and electronic format with print being preferred.
 - ii. Retrospective materials: The relevance of materials in the art collection can and will change over time. As new faculty are hired or new program foci are initiated, a review of the collection will be done to assess the fit between curriculum and collection. Items may be purchased to fill in gaps.
 - iii. Excluded materials: Textbooks are generally not selected.
 - iv. Levels of Collection Intensity: Comprehensive.

IV. Additional Collection Information

The art collection adheres to the University of Maryland Libraries' policies for duplication, gifts, deselection and preservation available at

<http://www.lib.umd.edu/collections/collectiondevelopment-policy>.

- a. Duplication: Duplication of certain titles will be maintained for seminal works. Duplication of a circulating copy of a special collections book may also occur for the same reason. Print duplication of an ebook may also occur upon faculty request.
- b. Gifts: Gift items may be added 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 Art Librarian is ultimately responsible for deciding whether or not a gift is added to the collection.

- c. Deselection/Withdrawal: The relevance of materials in the art collection can and will change over time. Regular evaluation of the collection is done to identify items that no longer fit criteria for inclusion in the collection.
- d. Transfer: Items of low use, but with significant scholarly content may be transferred to off-site storage
- e. Preservation: The Art Librarian works with the Preservation unit at the University of Maryland Libraries when individual titles are brought to their attention that need rebinding, repair or replacement.

- V. **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 Art Librarian 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: 12/8/15; Rev. 3/8/16; 8/30/18

CDC 9/25/18