

## Collection Development Policy Statement for Public Health

### Subject Specialists responsible:

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### I. Purpose

The purpose of the Public Health Collection of the [UMD Libraries](#) is to support the research, teaching, and information needs of students and faculty in the [School of Public Health](#) in College Park and [public health related programs at the Universities at Shady Grove](#). Each department at both locations has additional academic units that work in collaboration with outside organizations and institutions. The collection consists of materials in this field and attempts will be made to have a balanced collection of materials appropriate to the mission of the UMD Libraries.

The [School of Public Health](#) in College Park offers a variety of courses – both in person and online – leading to graduate degrees such as Bachelor of Science, Master of Public Health (MPH), Master of Health Administration, MA in Kinesiology, MS in Couple and Family Therapy, and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). Students can also receive post-baccalaureate certifications in Global Health and Principles of Public Health, as well post-graduate certifications in Gerontology and Physical Education. Selected classes are being offered at the off-campus facilities at the Universities at Shady Grove.

The [Universities at Shady Grove](#) (USG) is a regional higher education center under the auspices of the University System of Maryland (USM) that provides access to baccalaureate and graduate degrees to residents in Montgomery County and the surrounding region. Nine USM institutions bring more than 60 degrees programs into the region. Several of these degrees programs have a health-related focus, including pharmacy, nursing, public health science, health care management, exercise science, respiratory therapy, biotechnology, psychology, and biology. Other programs in communication, simulation, political science, criminology, and library/information science offer health-related courses. USG maintains strong partnerships with regional K-12 public schools, community colleges, businesses and community organizations to support its mission.

### Coordination and Cooperative Information:

Public Health faculty and students are involved not only in their subject specific areas of epidemiology, health systems, biostatistics, environmental health, health behavior, kinesiology and family science but also in interdisciplinary research including engineering, arts and humanities, business and public policy. Materials collected in all these subject disciplines are relevant to the Public Health users.

UMD Libraries have developed partnerships and collaborations with state, regional and national institutions and consortiums in order to enhance access to library collections and provide necessary materials for teaching and research. The membership in the [Big Ten Academic Alliance \(BTAA\)](#) and [Chesapeake Information and Research Library Alliance \(CIRLA\)](#) allows patrons to obtain print materials from other participating libraries through interlibrary loan services. For digital content, UMD Libraries offer access through its collaborations with [BTAA](#), [HathiTrust](#), and [University System of Maryland and Affiliated Institutions \(USMAI\)](#).

### **Diversity:**

Recognizing that public health 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 public health 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 [Collection Development Diversity Statement](#).

## **II. Summary of Collection Scope at Current Collecting Levels**

1. **Scope:** The public health collection includes material in all areas of public health, including nutrition in health and disease, health administration, epidemiology, toxicology, occupational health, maternal and child health, biostatistics, communicable diseases, community health, environmental health, and international health.
2. **Location:** The collection is mainly housed at [McKeldin library](#) but interdisciplinary material is located at other library branches – [STEM library](#), [Hornbake Library](#), and off-campus at [Priddy Library](#) in Shady Grove. Low-use materials are located in [Severn Library](#), an off-site repository. The collection is enhanced by access to materials at other libraries through Interlibrary Loan Services and involving partners and collaborators (e.g. [USMAI](#), [BTAA](#), [HathiTrust](#), etc.)
3. **Format:** The collection consists of books and journals in print and electronic formats, microfilms and microforms, databases, and audio and video materials. The UMD Libraries are committed to collecting and maintaining a hybrid collection of materials where resources are collected in the most appropriate format for their intended use. Collecting in electronic format is preferred although print journal volumes will not be deaccessioned unless suitable electronic archives are purchased.
4. **Use:** Library services and collections are open to the public. Most of the Library's materials circulate for use outside the library. Materials circulate to UMD faculty, staff, and students with valid ID cards. Others who wish to borrow materials must have a current library card issued through [the Community Borrowers and Researchers Program](#).

## **III. Developing the Public Health Collection**

1. **Language(s):** The emphasis is on English language materials in the collection. Major works covering the subject in other languages may be selected, although translations will be preferred. Materials in the vernacular are generally the purview of the librarian responsible for that particular language.
2. **Geographical areas:** The major focus of items in the collection is on North America, but curricular and research interests in global health place a great emphasis on works related to Africa, Latin America, Asia, Europe and other areas.
3. **Chronological periods/Imprint dates:** All chronological periods are collected, although selection will emphasize current publications, with the exception of reprints and classic works when required for replacement purposes.

4. Materials selected

- a) Included materials: Resources are acquired based on their authoritativeness, currency, comprehensiveness, ease of use, and relevancy. Collection access to information may depend on the best available format. This may vary by the type of information, the format compatibility with existing infrastructure, and the discipline.
- b) Excluded materials: Very selective in collecting handbooks and manuals, pocket reference books, educational materials for self-assessment, exam preparation, etc. These books are not bound and are deselected from the Library when outdated. Textbooks generally are only purchased if requested for course reserves by an instructor. In rare instances, graduate or professional level textbooks may be purchased if they concentrate on a specific subject area in which our current collection is weak. In most cases, reprints or dissertations are not purchased.
- c) Levels of Collection Intensity: UMD Libraries collect mostly on a university graduate/professional level and selectively on a university undergraduate level. To define the extent of the Libraries' collections, the public health librarians use the [Research Libraries Group \(RLG\) Conspectus](#) :

0 - Out-of-Scope
1 - Minimal information level
2 - Basic information level
3 - Study or instructional support level
4 - Research level
5 - Comprehensive level

<b>BF692-692.5</b>	<b>Psychology of sex. Sexual behavior</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>GV1-1570</b>	<b>Sports, recreation</b>	<b>3</b>
GV1800-1860	Recreation	4
<b>HQ1-1099</b>	<b>Family studies</b>	<b>3</b>
HV697-887	Protection, assistance, and relief of families and children	4
<b>K670-709</b>	<b>Civil Law. Domestic relations. Family Law</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>RA1-1270</b>	<b>Public aspects of medicine</b>	
RA407-409.5	Health status indicators. Medical statistics and surveys	4
RA421-790.95	Public health. Hygiene. Preventive medicine	4
RA440-440.87	Study and teaching. Research	3
RA565-600	Environmental health	3
RA601-602	Food and food supply in relation to public health	3
RA604-618	Parks, public baths, public carriers, buildings, etc.	1
RA638	Immunity and immunization in relation to public health	3
RA639-642	Transmission of disease	2
RA643-645	Disease (Communicable and noninfectious) and public health	4
RA645.5-645.9	Emergency medical services	3
RA646-648.3	War and public health	2
RA648.5-767	Epidemics. Epidemiology. Quarantine. Disinfection	4

RA771-771.7	Rural health and hygiene. Rural health services	4
RA773-788	Personal health and hygiene	2
RA790-790.95	Mental health. Mental illness prevention	3
RA1190-1270	Toxicology. Poisons	3
RB-RC434	Pathology. Internal medicine.	2
RC577-RR999	Medicine	1
RG940-991	Maternal care. Prenatal care services	4
RJ1-570	Pediatrics	4
RS	Pharmacy and pharmaceutical chemistry	1
Other R's	Miscellaneous medicine	1

#### IV. Additional Collection Information

1. **Duplication:** In general, the Libraries acquire only single copies of works. Multiple copies of outdated materials may be deselected, but unique materials are retained. Duplication is allowed for print titles authored by UMD faculty. Multiple copies will be purchased or maintained when there is a high demand for teaching/learning. Whenever an electronic version is available, only one existing copy can be kept; all others must be deselected.
2. **Gifts:** Gift items added to the public health 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”. The subject specialists for public health are ultimately responsible for deciding whether or not a gift is added to the collection.
3. **Deselection:** Due to limited shelving space, print books are periodically reviewed and considered for deselection. Criteria for deselection include lack of circulation, local availability of electronic or more current editions, duplicates, physical condition of the item, and change or elimination of an academic program.
4. **Preservation:** The subject specialists 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](mailto:lib-cdc@umd.edu)) and is considered effective on the date indicated below. It will be reexamined regularly by the subject specialists 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:** February 25, 2015 NT and EH, Rev. 4/24/15, 6/9/2016, 6/6/2018

CDC 9/25/18