Subject Specialist responsible: Cynthia Sorrell / 301.405.9125 / csorrell@umd.edu

I. Purpose

The University of Maryland Libraries select materials that support courses and programs in Persian studies offered for the research and teaching of faculty and students. At present, an undergraduate degree in Persian Studies is offered on this campus. Additionally, the collections serve a growing number of people of Persian heritage who continue to foster communication and community ties among themselves and others who have an interest in the Persian cultural experience. The Roshan Institute for Persian Studies, established in 2004 on this flagship campus, is considered a model for encouraging intercultural communication among individuals of various backgrounds.

Coordination and Cooperative Information: Persian studies overlaps various subject areas including history, linguistics, women’s studies, sociology, literature, religious studies, government documents, and anthropology, 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 HATHI TRUST.

Diversity: The Persian Studies collections include materials and resources that reflect a variety of literary, 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.

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 and requested periodicals housed in McKeldin Library, with a substantial collection of media works now available in the Library Media Services unit in Hornbake, were purchased at that time. Emphasis is currently directed toward works of notable authors, poets, historians, and electronic versions of reference works, eBook collections, and various databases to meet the research and instructional needs of a wider audience of library users.

III. Developing the Persian Studies Collection

1. Language(s): The emphasis is on Persian 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 Iran and the United States, but curricular and research interests in the discipline make works on other countries 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**
   1. **Included materials:**
      
      Monographs, monographic series, periodicals, newspapers, databases, audio/visual materials, government documents, dissertations, and ephemera are acquired on a selective basis.

   2. **Excluded materials:**
      
      Photocopies, juvenile materials, textbooks.

IV. **Additional Collection Information**


**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 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; CS Rev. 8/31/16 CDC 9/20/16