Purpose

The collection supports present and anticipated teaching and research in the field of anthropology. At present, the central focus of the department and the chief interests of the faculty are encompassed in the following areas of teaching and research: the archaeology and ethnography of North, Central, and South America, the Caribbean, Western Europe, Southeastern Europe, the Mediterranean, and Africa, with emphasis on applied work in social anthropology, cultural resource management, and preservation archaeology. Within archaeology, particular emphasis is placed upon the prehistoric and historic archaeology of the southeastern United States and the Gulf Coast. Social anthropology increasingly concentrates on urban anthropology.

The department offers the bachelor’s degree in anthropology, as well as a minor, and in conjunction with the MS in Urban Studies, also offers an applied anthropology focus. The program in anthropology is organized around applied urban anthropology, including cultural anthropology, archaeology, the application of cultural anthropology to cultural resource management, and urban anthropology. The Anthropology Department participates in the Latin American and Caribbean Studies program and the Applied Urban Anthropology track within the M.S. in Urban Studies.

In addition to the support for the specific degree programs of the Anthropology Department, the collection also serves as a resource for undergraduate and graduate students and faculty members in other disciplines. Related departments and programs covering subjects of interest to the Anthropology Department are fine arts, geography, history, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, sociology, and urban studies.

Languages

The primary language of acquisition is English. Materials in Spanish appropriate to the curriculum are collected on a selective basis. Occasionally, materials in other European languages, such as French, German, and Italian are collected. Non-European languages are not collected.

Chronological Guidelines

By their nature, anthropological topics know no chronological time limits. While the topics in anthropology and archaeology cover all time periods from prehistory to modern, there is some emphasis on the prehistoric through pre-Columbian periods, particularly in archaeology. Applied anthropology relates more to 19th, 20th, and 21st century issues.

Geographical Guidelines

While materials on all geographical areas are collected, there is a primary emphasis on the Western Hemisphere, in particular, the southeastern and Gulf Coast portions of the United States, Mexico, Central...
America, and South America. There is also some emphasis on Europe, including western and central Europe and the Balkans, and on sub-Saharan Africa, especially east and west Africa.

**Treatment of Subject**

The following treatments of materials in anthropology are collected:

Only major works related to the history of anthropology are collected.

Materials on practice and methods and computer applications in all areas are collected, particularly in applied anthropology and archaeology.

Within the subjects and geographical areas collected in anthropology (sociocultural anthropology, ethnology, folklore, and archaeology), materials giving the following treatments are collected: the political aspects of, the religious aspects of, the economic aspects of, the medical aspects of, the social aspects of, the psychological aspects of, and the legal aspects of.

**Types of Material**

Monographs and serials form the basis for anthropology acquisitions. The general format preference for monographs is print, but electronic books are collected on request, and are encouraged as an option for online courses and Course Reserve purchases.

Much of the electronic content (books, journals, databases) that supports the Anthropology Department is not purchased directly through the departmental allocation but is acquired instead as aggregated content, often in the form of full-text, interdisciplinary databases or electronic book or journal packages. Many of these resources are purchased through a separate interdisciplinary allocation or statewide consortial buying arrangements.

Indexes and abstracts, primarily in the form of online databases are acquired. Reference materials, such as bibliographies, handbooks, source books, encyclopedias, dictionaries, and linguistic atlases are selectively acquired. Also collected are: microforms, manuscripts and typescripts (rarely), translations (selectively, rarely), federal and state documents, proceedings and publications of various groups, pamphlets and newsletters of anthropological societies, special studies, ichnographic material (extremely selectively).

**Date of Publication**

Current materials are most important. Emphasis is on materials published within the past twenty years. Retrospective materials are collected only for certain classic 19th and early 20th century monographic series which contain currently relevant primary data on social anthropology and archaeology.
Other Resources

The Federal Documents Unit within the Earl K. Long Library is a source of much material that supports the programs of the Anthropology Department. Especially important are the publications of the Bureau of American Ethnology, now subsumed as part of the Department of Anthropology of the Smithsonian Institution. The primary non-UNO resource is Tulane University’s Latin American Library.

Related Policy Statements

Other information related to Anthropology will be found in the following policy statements:

- Fine Arts: art history, ancient middle American art, African and Oceanic art, and Greek and Roman art
- Geography: physical and cultural geography of world places
- History: ancient history and historical archaeology
- Sociology: social organization, the family, and sociology of religion
- Urban Studies: applied urban anthropology, and urban planning

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