Film and Theatre Collection Development Policy

Purpose

The collection supports present and anticipated teaching and research in the fields of Film and Theatre, and their subdisciplines. 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: film history and theory, film production, theatre history, and theatre production.

The department offers the following degrees: BA and MFA.

The student may choose from three courses of study– film arts, theatre arts, and writing for production.

At the graduate level, the department offers the Master of Fine Arts in Film Production, Theatre Performance (Acting/Directing) or Design. Areas of specialization in film arts and theatre arts include filmmaking, acting, screenwriting, cinematography, documentary, directing, and design.

In addition to the support for the specific degree programs of the FTA department the collection, especially in view of its broad interdisciplinary nature, also serves as a resource for undergraduate and graduate students and faculty members in other disciplines, notably English, Foreign Languages, Anthropology, Fine Arts, History, Sociology, Psychology, and Political Science.

Language

The primary language of acquisition for books is English. Materials in other languages are not normally acquired. Film content is purchased in a variety of languages, typically with English subtitles.

Chronological Guidelines

Primary emphasis is on the twentieth and twenty-first century, although secondary focus is on ancient to modern forms of theatre.

Geographical Guidelines

Primary emphasis is on Western Europe and North America. Secondary emphasis is on Eastern Europe, Asia, Latin America and Africa.

Treatment of Subject

Practice and methods of, equipment used in, and teaching of the various creative areas taught by the department are collected. Textbooks at the elementary level are not usually acquired for the practical aspects of these creative areas, but textbooks at the advanced level are acquired on a selective basis.

Material collected in theater and film-making include history of, political aspects, teaching of, religious aspects of, role of government in, biographical treatment, legal aspects, social aspects, and psychological aspects.
Types of material

Monographs, DVDS, and serial publications form the basis for FTA acquisitions. Unpublished screenplays are collected on a selective basis. Reference materials, including bibliographies, dictionaries, handbooks, and encyclopedias are occasionally acquired. Databases that index the relevant serial publications are acquired, as are digital collections of content relevant to film and theatre studies.

Much of the electronic content (books, journals, and databases) that supports the FTA 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 journal packages. Many of these resources are purchased through a separate interdisciplinary allocation or statewide consortial buying arrangements.

Date of Publication

Current and retrospective materials are collected. Current materials are most important. Retrospective materials may be selectively acquired and may be purchased in microform, reprint, or digital formats.

Other Resources

Within the library the listening room houses recordings, videos, and electronic media of plays, musicals and sound effects useful to the department.

Related Policy Statements

English: The English department houses the Creative Writing Workshop which contains. Fiction writers, playwrights, poets, and screenwriters who take course work in English as well as FTA. FTA collects material related to the craft of play writing and screen writing, as well as contemporary plays and screenplays. English collects material related to the craft of fiction and poetry, as well as contemporary novels, short stories, essays, and poetry.

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