Africana Studies

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Purpose/Programs Supported
The Africana Studies collection at the Robert W. Woodruff Library (RWWL) supports general instruction in African-American History; African-American Literature; Theories of African-centered historiography; African history, traditional religion and philosophy; the African Diaspora & the World; African-American philosophy; African-American music; African-American theology; and a variety of other discipline specific courses emphasizing traditions within the African Diaspora. As an academic community of historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs), the institutions of the Atlanta University Center (AUC) utilize African and African-American resources throughout their respective curricula. In addition to supporting the general curricula of all AUC schools, the Africana Studies collection also supports a variety of degree programs offered by institutions of the AUC. The Morehouse College (MH) Department of African-American Studies offers both a major and minor in African-American Studies. Spelman College (SC) requires all students to complete a two-semester program entitled, “African Diaspora & the World.” The Clark Atlanta University (CAU) Department for African and African American Studies and Department of Africana Women's Studies offer graduate programs leading to a Master of Arts and the Doctor of Arts in Humanities degrees. African and African American Studies courses are also offered for upper division undergraduates although the majority of the course offerings at CAU are at the graduate level. Finally, the Africana Studies collection at the RWWL also supports a variety of philosophy and theology courses offered as part of the Interdenominational Theological Center’s (ITC) graduate programs.

Guidelines for Collection Development and Management

Languages
The majority of the Africana Studies collection is in English. However, foreign language texts are also collected in areas of the African Diaspora where English is not the primary language. Examples of the aforementioned include Spanish, French, and Portuguese.
In addition to English and other colonial languages of the Diaspora, limited texts are also collected in continental African languages such as Ki-Swahili, Amharic, and Twi.

**Chronological Coverage**
There are no chronological limits placed on the Africana Studies collection.

**Geographical Coverage**
There are no geographical limits placed on the Africana Studies collection. All materials relative to the African Diaspora are considered. However, special emphasis is placed on materials about the African populations of the United States and the Caribbean.

**Scope**
The core of the Africana Studies collection is useful for all students and scholars of African and African-American history, culture, politics, philosophy, literature, and related disciplines. Limited material is also available for Francophone, Lusophone, and Afro-Latin studies.

**Types of Materials, Formats Collected**