Biological Sciences

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Purpose/Programs Supported

The biological sciences collection at the Robert W. Woodruff Library supports the curricula of the undergraduate degree programs in Biology at Clark Atlanta University, Morehouse College and Spelman College; and graduate degree programs in Biology at Clark Atlanta University. Undergraduate course offerings focus on the basic principles and concepts of the biological sciences (biochemistry, cellular biology, ecology, environmental biology, genetics, molecular biology, physiology, and plant biology). Curricular offerings include the requisite pre-professional courses for careers in medicine, dentistry, nursing, medical technology, pharmacy and engineering. Graduate students are trained to become scholars and promote research by introduction to contemporary concepts in the fields of cellular biology and molecular genetics.

Guidelines for Collection Development and Management

Languages

English, but may include translations of significant works. Foreign language materials may be obtained via the Woodruff Library Interlibrary Loan Service (ILLiad).

Chronological Coverage

No limits, emphasis on contemporary resources.

Geographical Coverage

The collection focuses primarily on information resources relevant to the study, teaching and research of the biological sciences and related topics without regard to geographical origin.

Scope

The undergraduate collection focuses primarily on the basic principles and concepts of biology and the biomedical sciences. The graduate collection focuses on resources that support study and research in the areas of molecular genetics and cell biology.
Types of Materials, Formats Collected

Scholarly journals, primary sources, scholarly secondary resources, and standard reference sources are collected. Electronic formats are preferred for all items added to the Library’s collection.

Special Considerations

Textbooks are purchased and placed on permanent course reserves, upon request by departmental faculty.

Strengths and Weaknesses

The collection provides strong coverage for basic principles and concepts of biology and the biomedical sciences. Special efforts are made to collect information resources to support graduate level study and research in the areas of cell biology, molecular genetics, neuroscience, and cancer research.

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