Foreign Languages & Studies

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Purpose/Programs Supported

The Foreign Languages & Foreign Studies collection at the Robert W. Woodruff Library supports the foreign language departments at the Atlanta University Center (AUC) schools. Clark Atlanta University’s Department of Foreign Languages offers degree programs leading to the Bachelor of Arts in French and/or Spanish, Master of Arts in French and/or Spanish, and the Doctor of Arts in Humanities with a concentration in Romance Languages. The department also offers introductory and intermediate courses in Chinese. The foreign languages department of Spelman College offers specialized programs in French, Chinese, and Spanish, leading to either a major or minor. The college also offers a minor in Japan Studies. Students of Morehouse College’s Department of Modern Foreign Language can major in French or Spanish. Classes are also offered in German, Japanese, and Swahili.

Guidelines for Collection Development and Management

Languages

Material is primarily collected in Spanish and French, due to their prominence in all three schools’ foreign language departments. However, there are numerous monographs and multimedia material in other languages found in the foreign language departments, as well as languages of interest to students and faculty in the Atlanta University Center (ex.: Russian, Arabic, Korean). English language materials are also collected to supports culture studies courses.

Chronological Coverage

The collection spans from the medieval through contemporary period. Special emphasis is placed on 20th and 21st century works.

Geographical Coverage

The collection focuses primarily upon materials pertinent to the study of the language or the literatures of France, Spain, Latin America, Japan, and China. However, the
The collection strives to include works from all nations studied by the schools’ foreign language departments.

Scope

The core of the Foreign Languages & Foreign Studies collection is devoted to materials useful for students of all the Foreign Language departments in the Atlanta University Center. The collection strives to support all foreign language interests of members of the Atlanta University Center, whether scholarly or recreational.

Types of Materials, Formats Collected

The collection consists of monographs, serials, musical recordings, films, multimedia tutorials, and electronic resources. Musical recordings and audio tutorials are collected in CD format. The film collection includes materials on videotape and DVD format. The electronic resources available to faculty and students include MLA International Bibliography, Ethnic Newswatch, and the Hispanic American Periodicals Index.

Collection Strengths & Weaknesses

The collection benefits from a wide geographic coverage. Each language taught in the AUC is represented, as well as languages outside that scope. The collection includes textbooks from past decades. There is also popular/leisure reading in Spanish and French.

Standard Inclusions & Exclusions

Textbooks are generally not purchased for the collection. There is an exception for workbooks that are usually requested and placed on reserve by faculty.