

AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES
Rosemary Stevenson; November 1984

I. DESCRIPTION

A. Purpose: To support research and teaching on the Black experience outside of Africa, with an emphasis on the Americas. Currently, Afro-American Studies courses at the University are taught through numerous departments and coordinated by the Afro-American Studies and Research Program. Although no degree is given presently, plans are underway for Afro-American Studies to become an undergraduate field of concentration. At this time, Afro-American courses are offered in the fields of literature, Spanish, education, history, sociology, theatre, dance, music, social work and bibliography.

B. History of Collection: Although materials by and about Afro-Americans have been part of the collection for many decades, the systematic acquisition and coordination began in 1969, when Alex Boyd became the first Afro-Americana Bibliographer. This position began as part of the general acquisitions department and became a separate bibliographic unit during the administration of the second bibliographer, Pola Patterson. The AfroAmericana Unit, which shares a suite with Africana, has a bibliographer and a library technical assistant. A portion of the library's holdings in AfroAmericana is listed in the unit's card catalog, which includes approximately 10,000 entries.

C. Estimate of Holdings: 200,000 volumes.

D. State, Regional, and National Importance: The Afro-American collection is among the top five academic library collections in the country, especially because of the strong, balanced holdings in both North and South America. The publicly owned collections in Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the Vivian Harsh Collection of the Chicago Public Library, make the state one of the most significant places for Afro-American studies in the nation.

E. Unit Responsible for Collecting: Afro-Americana Unit. Other units which collect a significant amount of material relevant to the Black experience are Latin American Collection Development, the English, History, Music, and Education and Social Science Libraries.

F. Location of Materials: Afro-American resources are found throughout the University's various libraries, with the largest number located in the Bookstacks.

G. Citations of Works Describing the Collection: None available.

II. GENERAL COLLECTION GUIDELINES

A. Languages: Standard statement. In addition, several creole languages.

B. Chronological Guidelines: No restrictions.

C. Geographical Guidelines: Outside of Africa with emphasis on the Americas.

D. Treatment of Subject: Materials dealing with the Black experience. Academic level, including scholarly treatment and selected textbooks. In addition, selected children's material.

E. Types of Materials: Standard statement. Current emphasis on dissertations since they are one of the major sources for Afro-American scholarship at present.

F. Date of Publication: Standard statement.

G. Place of Publication: No restrictions.

III. COLLECTION RESPONSIBILITY BY SUBJECT SUBDIVISIONS WITH QUALIFICATIONS, LEVELS OF COLLECTING INTENSITY, AND ASSIGNMENTS

<u>SUBJECTS</u>	<u>ES</u>	<u>GL</u>	<u>DL</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENTS</u>
Afro-Americans--anthropology	3	3	4	ANTHROPOLOGY/ Afro-American
Afro-Americans--art history and criticism	2	2	3	ART/Afro-American
Afro-Americans--biography	3	3	4	AFRO-AMERICAN/ history
Afro-Americans--education	2	3	4	AFRO-AMERICAN/ education
Afro-Americans--health	1	2	3	AFRO-AMERICAN
Afro-Americans--history	3	3	4	AFRO-AMERICAN/ HISTORY/ LATIN AMERICAN
Afro-Americans--juvenilia	2	2	3	AFRO-AMERICAN/ instructional materials
Afro-Americans--linguistics	2	2	3	LINGUISTICS/ Afro-American
Afro-Americans--literature				
Original works				
U.S. authors	3	4	4	AFRO-AMERICAN/ ENGLISH
Canadian authors	2	2	3	AFRO-AMERICAN/ English
Latin American and Caribbean authors writing in:				
English	3	4	4	AFRO-AMERICAN/ LATIN AMERICAN
French	3	3	3	AFRO-AMERICAN/ FRENCH/ LATIN AMERICAN

<u>SUBJECTS</u>	<u>ES</u>	<u>CL</u>	<u>DL</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENTS</u>
Spanish	3	3	4	AFRO-AMERICAN/ LATIN AMERICAN
Portuguese	2	3	3	AFRO-AMERICAN/ LATIN AMERICAN
Dutch	1	2	2	AFRO-AMERICAN/ German/ Latin American
Creole	1	2	2	AFRO-AMERICAN/ comparative literature/ Latin American
Afro-Americans--media history and criticism	2	3	4	AFRO-AMERICAN/ communications
Afro-Americans--music Records and sheet music	3	3	4	MUSIC/ Afro-American
History	3	3	3	MUSIC/ Afro-American
Afro-Americans--political science	2	2	3	AFRO-AMERICAN/ political science
Afro-Americans--psychology	2	2	3	AFRO-AMERICAN/ psychology
Afro-Americans--reference works	4	4	4	AFRO-AMERICAN/ reference
Afro-Americans--science (Black contributions and impact on black people)	1	2	3	AFRO-AMERICAN
Afro-Americans--sociology	3	3	3	AFRO-AMERICAN/ sociology
Afro-Americans--women's studies	2	3	4	AFRO-AMERICAN/ WOMEN'S STUDIES