

JEWISH STUDIES
Robert Sewell; September 1984

I. DESCRIPTION

A. Purpose: To support teaching and research in Jewish studies. There is an undergraduate program in Jewish Culture and Society, and while there are no graduate programs in Jewish studies, much advanced graduate and faculty research is being conducted in various aspects of Jewish studies in such departments as Art, Comparative Literature, Cinema Studies, English, History, Linguistics, Religious Studies, Sociology, Economics, and Political Science. Given the broad, interdisciplinary nature of Jewish studies and limited funding, the collection development effort involves the coordination of collection building with Jewish studies faculty members and selectors in various disciplines.

B. History of Collection: There has never been a Judaica collection as an independent unit. Relevant materials have been acquired by individual librarians on the basis of needs expressed by their faculty and student constituency. As a result there is a significant, if not unified, collection of Judaica materials.

C. Estimate of Holdings: 30,000 volumes.

D. State, Regional, and National Importance: Unclear.

E. Unit Responsible for Collecting: Jewish Studies Acquisitions Coordinator. Several departmental librarians also select relevant materials according to their disciplinary responsibilities.

F. Location of Materials: Most are in the Bookstacks, but also in the Reference Library, Undergraduate Library, and various departmental libraries, especially the History and Modern Languages Libraries.

G. Citations of Works Describing the Collection:

Blonheim, D. S. Books of Jewish Interest in the Library of the University of Illinois. Urbana, IL., University of Illinois, 1913. (University of Illinois Bulletin, XI, no. 3, September 15, 1913).

Choldin, Marianna Tax. "Yiddish Literature in English: A Preliminary Bibliography." March, 1975 (Unpub.)

Mitchell, Steven. "A Survey of the University of Illinois Library's Holdings in Judaica and Hebraica: A Report." 1981 (Unpub.)

Sewell, Robert G., "Collecting Judaica in Large Research Libraries." Paper presented at ALA Convention, Dallas, Texas, June 1984.

_____. "Planning for a New Jewish Studies Acquisitions Program: A Case Study in Collection Development." 1982 (Unpub.), 19 p.

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II. GENERAL COLLECTION GUIDELINES

A. Languages: English, Western European languages, including Yiddish. Hebrew language publications are collected by the Asian Library and works in Slavic and East European languages are purchased by the Slavic and East European Library.

B. Chronological Guidelines: No restrictions.

C. Geographical Guidelines: Emphasis on United States, Europe, and Middle East, but all areas possible for inclusion. Latin American Collection Development purchases Judaica for Latin America.

D. Treatment of Subject: Primarily scholarly but also popular treatments; juvenilia and curriculum materials are collected on a selective basis on the Jewish studies fund. Given the limited funding for Jewish studies, much of the Judaica acquisitions are made by departmental librarians rather than the Jewish Studies Acquisitions Coordinator. The primary use of the fund is to purchase interdisciplinary monographs and journals, special topics of Jewish interest such as Anti-Semitism, the Holocaust, and Zionism, and to supplement purchases made by departmental librarians, especially those in the Education and Social Science, English, History and Philosophy, and Modern Languages and Linguistics Libraries.

E. Types of Materials: Standard statement. Special interests in reference materials such as library catalogs, and bibliographies as well as interdisciplinary journals.

F. Date of Publication: Standard statement.

G. Place of Publication: No restrictions, but primarily the United States, Europe, and Israel.

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

<u>SUBJECTS</u>	<u>ES</u>	<u>CL</u>	<u>DL</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENTS</u>
JEWISH REFERENCE WORKS AND INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES	2	3	4	JEWISH STUDIES/ religion/ reference
JEWISH LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES Hebrew				
Vernacular texts	1	1	3	SOUTH AND WEST ASIA
Western language translations and secondary studies	2	2	3	Jewish studies/ linguistics/ undergraduate

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Yiddish Vernacular texts	1	2	3	JEWISH STUDIES/ German/Slavic
Translations into, and secondary studies in other Western languages	2	3	3	comparative literature/ Jewish studies/ linguistics/ undergraduate
Jewish American and British literature	2	3	3	ENGLISH/Jewish studies
Other Jewish languages and literatures	1	1	2	comparative literature/ Jewish studies/ linguistics
JEWISH HISTORY AND THOUGHT				
General coverage including biblical studies	3	3	4	HISTORY/ RELIGION/ Jewish studies
Special topics such as holocaust studies, and Zionism	2	3	4	JEWISH STUDIES/ history/ religion
JEWISH SOCIETY AND POLITICS				
General coverage	3	3	4	POLITICAL SCIENCE/ SOCIOLOGY/ EDUCATION/ Jewish studies
Special topics such as Anti-Semitism	3	3	4	JEWISH STUDIES/ sociology