

Packaging Science

Information Access Policy
Clemson University Libraries

Packaging Science Librarian:
[Chris Colthorpe](#)

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Revised by C. Colthorpe
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I. Purpose/Objectives

A. Description of the Curriculum

Packaging Science is a discipline involving the use of materials, methods, and machinery to develop and produce packages that protect and preserve products, instruct the consumer and help market the product. Environmental concerns are very important in packaging selection and design. Packaging is a large, international industry, an extremely dynamic, rapidly growing field. On the basis of gross sales, it is the third largest industry in the United States. Virtually everything grown or manufactured is packaged in some fashion. The food industry is the largest user of packages, but non-food packaging is essential also. ... The student in Packaging Science will select from two emphasis areas: Food Packaging and General Packaging. The basic curricula are the same, but students selecting the Food Packaging option are required to take more food-related courses. Those selecting the General Packaging option can concentrate in other areas of specialty, such as environmental science or graphic communication. (Taken from the degree description in the 1996/97 Undergraduate Announcements)

The primary purpose of the Packaging Science collection is to provide library resources for undergraduate and graduate students in courses offered by the Department and to provide support for faculty teaching and research.

Description/Profile of Primary and Secondary Users

User Profile :

Primary:

Undergraduate majors:	136
MS Graduate Students:	8

Faculty - 12
Staff - 2

Secondary:

Food Science, Food Technology, and Nutrition Majors

Food Science: Undergraduate majors: 97

Nutrition: Master's Program 02

Food, Nutrition, and Culinary: Master's Program 21

Food Technology: Doctoral 15

Faculty - 12

Staff - 9

II. **Scope of Collection**

A. **Formats**

Print and non-print, the Packaging Science reading room has a large collection of video tapes. Cooper's collection will be primarily print and electronic material.

B. **Language Guidelines**

English language primarily

C. **Chronological Guidelines**

Recent material with some historical information

D. **Geographical Guidelines**

Primarily United States and Great Britain

E. **Publication Date**

Emphasis will be given to current, up-to-date information published within the last five years.

III. **Collection Analysis by Subject**

The Library of Congress classifications for packaging are extensive in that packaging information falls under many different classifications depending upon the package media(cans, cardboard, plastics, etc.) as well as the product(food, medicine, electronics, etc.) being packaged. Transportation of products and environmental issues are also important subject areas within the packaging industry. An effort has been made to be inclusive of major areas but some classifications for this subject area may be omitted by oversight.

Subject Classifications	LC Class
Food Processing and Manufacturing (TP 374 Packaging)	TP 370 - 374
Transportation--Freight	TA 1215
Packaging Engineering	TS 195 - 198.8
Paper (bags, paper boxes)	TS 1200 .A2 - .Z
Special Environmental Pollutants--Packaging Goods Industry	TD 195 .P26
Energy Conservation--Packaging Goods Industry	TJ 163.5 .P33
Packaging Economics	HF 5770
Related Classifications	LC Class
Paper Manufacturing and Trade	TS 1104 - 1177
Recycling	TD 794.5
Plastics	TP 1101 - 1183

IV. Access to Information Not On-Site

A. Interlibrary Loan Information

Material not owned by the Clemson University Libraries may be obtained from other libraries through Interlibrary Loans.

B. Electronic Sources

Many electronic sources are available for access to information. See current bibliographies for packaging science for those sources that are currently available.

For electronic indexes see:

<http://www.lib.clemson.edu/research/subjects/foodsci/foodsciart.htm> .

C. Web pages and Other Internet Capabilities

For links to useful Web pages see:

<http://www.lib.clemson.edu/subjects/packsci.htm> .

D. Full-Text Retrieval Databases

Full text articles are available from electronic sources such as LEXIS/NEXIS, Expanded Academic Index ASAP and the General Business File ASAP and Academic Search Premier.

V. Selection Tools

A. Review Sources

Periodicals in the subject classifications related to packaging science

B. Approval Plans

At the present time there is not an approval plan for packaging science

C. Publishers' Catalogs

Publishers' catalogs are a primary source for selection

VI. "De-selection" or weeding efforts

Monographic material, with an imprint of 1985 or earlier, which has not circulated for the last ten years will be reviewed for weeding.

VII. Evaluation Tools:

- SAS Reports
- SCI Journal Citation Reports
- Guide to Sources for Agricultural and Biological Research
- CAB Online
- Forestry Products Abstracts
- Major Packaging Journals
- Faculty and Researchers Teaching and Research Interest Surveys
- PIRA

VIII. Collection Assessment and Planning

. Qualitative Measures

1. Bibliographies

Bibliographies related to packaging science will be checked periodically against our holdings

2. Benchmarking Projects

There are only four schools that have a Packaging Science program for a bachelor or higher degree. Library resources will be compared with the other schools that have a Packaging Science degree.

Benchmarking schools:
Indiana State University(B)
Michigan State University(B,M)
Rochester Institute of Technology (B,M)

A. Quantitative Measures

1. Circulation Information

Circulation Profile: A profile of specific subject areas heavily used are given instead of providing total circulation statistics for the classifications covering packaging.

2. Interlibrary Loans

IX.

o Assessment

Background Information: There are strong collections in the related areas of material that may be packaged such as food, medicine, and electronics. The collection is also strong in areas of the materials that may be used for packaging such as forest products and plastics. Due to limited interlibrary loan activity it appears that the basic packaging science collection is meeting the curriculum requirements for the undergraduate degree. The number of books published in packaging science is not high. Circulation of the books is exceptionally high. Emphasis should be placed on updating the collection. Many of the titles are over 10 years old. As the number of students increases, consideration should be given to duplication of titles--ordering more than one copy of some of the most popular titles--those that have circulated 15 or more times. Food packaging is the strongest area in the collection. More emphasis should be placed on healthcare product and electronic product packaging. A small Packaging Science Library is located in the Packaging Science Department. This library has a large collection of videos related to the packaging industry and some periodicals, books and other printed material not located in Cooper Library.