

Public Health Sciences

Information Access Policy

Clemson University Libraries

Public Health Librarian: [Chris Colthorpe](#)

Summer 2011

Department of Health Sciences Mission

The mission of the Department of Public Health Sciences is the improvement of public health practice, health service delivery, and the general health status of the university community, the state of South Carolina, the nation and the international community through applied, innovative, collaborative, theoretically sound approaches to the integration of teaching, research, and service.

I. Purpose of the collection: To support research and teaching needs leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Health Science.

A. Curriculum

The undergraduate curriculum

The curriculum consists of a group of core courses and three concentration areas. The concentration areas are designed for students to gain in-depth knowledge in a chosen area of the health sciences. Students may choose from one of the three concentrations:

[Health Promotion and Education](#) (HPE)

This concentration area prepares graduates to assess health problems and develop, implement, and evaluate health promotion and education programs that address those problems. The health education profession has established standards for approval and accreditation of professional preparation programs. The occupation of "health educator" has been included in the revisions to the public health occupation categories within the Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) system by the Department of Labor and the Department of Commerce. The definition of the occupation is "design, organizes, implements, communicates, provides advice on and evaluates the effect of educational programs and strategies designed to support and modify health-related behaviors of individuals, families, organizations, and communities." Courses within this concentration area allow a student to qualify for the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) exam.

[Health Services Administration](#) (HSA)

The Health Services Administration Concentration allows students to develop skills and competencies in health administration/management for entry-level careers or graduate study in this area. This concentration was initiated by the Department of Public Health Sciences in response to emerging trends and changes in health administration, and the increasing desire of students to work in the area of health administration. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, employment of medical and health services managers is expected to grow faster than the average for all occupations as the health services industry continues to expand and diversify. The curriculum includes core courses for graduates in health sciences, as well as, courses specific to the Health Services Administration concentration. A minor in Business Administration is a required component as the concentration.

[Pre-Professional Studies in Health](#) (PPSH)

This concentration area is specifically designed for students who plan to attend graduate or professional school in one of the health concentrations. Students in the Pre-professional Health Studies Concentration obtain the coursework and experience necessary for acceptance into various graduate and clinical programs in clinical health professions. This concentration allows students to meet the undergraduate admissions requirements for advanced training. It is designed for students seeking entrance to medical, physical therapy, occupational therapy, dental and other clinical professional programs.

B. Primary Users:

Undergraduate students majoring in Public Health
Other students taking classes offered by Public Health
Public Health Faculty

Secondary Users

Undergraduates from all colleges
Graduate students from all colleges
Faculty from related disciplines
Staff involved with the areas of health care

II. Scope of In-House Collection

A. Formats Guidelines

1. Print Sources

Collecting efforts will focus on purchasing print sources (books and journals.) If funds are available, additional copies may be purchased when a book exceeds the recall limit as defined by the Circulation Unit.

2. Electronic Sources

Electronic sources (CD-ROMs, remote databases -web access preferred, e-books, e-journals etc.) will be obtained when economically feasible.

3. Types of materials which will be selected

Almanacs and Yearbooks, Dictionaries, Directories, and Encyclopedias: will be purchased for the Reference Collection

Bibliographies: Narrow subject scope bibliographies will be selected only when appropriate to the focus of the collection.

Career guidance materials: Career guides and job-seeking books will be purchased for the collection if the focus is on any of the concentration areas for Public Health majors at Clemson University.

Guidebooks, handbooks and workbooks: Books targeted for public health and health care.

Histories: Major works on the history of Public Health will be obtained.

Journals: Every effort will be made to preserve the current journal collection and to add new titles as funds allow. Evaluation tools and surveys of the faculty will be used to identify needed core journals. When ever possible electronic journals with off campus access will be given precedent over print.

Periodical Indexes: Indexes including Academic Search Premiere, Health and Wellness Resource Center, Medline, Lexis-Nexis, ERIC, InfoTrac OneFile , Expanded Academic, Science and Social Sciences Citation Index, General Business File, MathSci, and Dissertation Abstracts will be available. The preferred format is electronic with web based access.

Textbooks: Textbooks, which are used in classes taught at Clemson, will not be specifically purchased. Textbooks may be purchased if they are deemed appropriate in supporting the curriculum.

Theses and Dissertations: will be available on-line. No effort is made to collect theses or dissertations from other universities, but they can be requested through Interlibrary Loan.

Clemson Authors: Materials published by Clemson University Authors are not given priority.

B. Language Guidelines

English language materials will be purchased, however purchases in Spanish, French and other languages will be made as programs require.

C. Geographical Guidelines

Selection will be made with an emphasis on Public Health practices in the United States, however materials dealing with other regions will be purchased when they support the goals of the existing programs, course offerings, or faculty research.

D. Chronological Guidelines

Selecting will focus on current, up-to-date information.

E. Publication Date Guidelines

Generally the selector will purchase materials published within the past two years. Materials requested by faculty members or highly recommended in a review source will be considered regardless of publication date.

F. List of journals ranked "Core" or "Research" by the faculty:

Journals, currently subscribed to by the Libraries, represent only a small percentage of those listed under "Public Health and Safety" in Ulrich's.

Additionally the Libraries own only a limited number of the relevant magazines listed in Katz's Magazines for Libraries. Thus, emphasis should be placed on increasing the periodical collection—either in print or electronically

III. Primary Subject Classifications—LC Call Numbers:

RA1 -1270

IV. Access to Information not Available On-Site

A. Personal Contact

Many faculty and graduate students prefer to use e-mail to contact the authors of needed materials and updates on published articles.

B. InterLibrary Loan

ILL is the main source for monographic material and articles.

C. Internet Access

Online fee- for-access material will be made available when economically feasible.

URL's and descriptions of free access Internet sites deemed useful will be Provided.

V. Selection Tools to Be Used

A. Faculty Requests

Faculty requests normally will be given the highest priority for ordering.

B. Review Sources

Choice

Library Journal

C. Yankee Book Peddler

D. Subject searching of BIP and Amazon.com

E. Publisher's Catalogs and Announcements

F. Approval Plans

Approval plans for books and notification slips are arranged with YBP to ensure arrival/notification of titles which fit the needs of the library's circulating collection. The approval plan should be reviewed periodically.

VI. Deselection (Weeding) Guidelines

Materials published more than 15 years ago that have not circulated within the last 5 years will be considered for weeding or storage. Due to the need to maintain materials for historical research and/or reference, older materials may be kept even if they have not circulated recently.

VII. Evaluation Tools

A. Circulation, Recall, etc.

B. Reports created by Systems.

C. SSCI Journal Citation Reports

D. Books for College Libraries

E. Magazines for College Libraries

F. Faculty Teaching and Research Interest Surveys

VIII. Collection Assessment and Planning

A. Qualitative Measures

1. Bibliographies

2. Bench Marking Projects

Benchmark Institutions: Auburn, Georgia Tech, Iowa State, Michigan St., NC State, Purdue, Texas A&M, Univ. of CA, Davis, Virginia Tech.

B. Quantitative Measures

1. Circulation Statistics

2. Budget comparisons with Benchmark Institutions.