

Subject Level Collection Statement: French

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1. Purpose of the Statement

The purpose of this statement is to provide a framework to guide the collection development and management activities for the French programme. The statement supports teaching, learning and research activities of the French programme within the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.

This statement is developed in accordance with the principles outlined in the [Collection Development and Management Policy](#) (CDMP).

2. Description of the Academic Subject

The French programme offers courses in the French language, French and Quebec society and culture, and literature in French. See the programme's [website](#) for a complete list of courses.

There are currently four academic staff members and two tutors teaching in the French programme.

The French programme forms part of the School of Languages and Cultures. The French programme offers instruction at all levels, from 100 level to PhD.

3. Focus of the Subject

The main focus of the French programme is on French language, French and Quebec society and culture, and literature in French.

The research interests of the staff include:

- 19th French literature
- art and architecture
- classical and contemporary French theatre
- contemporary French literature
- decadence and symbolism in 1870-1900 French literature
- Francophony

- French Pacific literature
- Quebec literature (particularly Michèle Mailhot)
- French / Asian connections in art and theatre
- French / New Zealand connections
- lexicography
- literary translation
- narratology
- reading theory

4. Overview of the Collection

Electronic Resources

There are no specialist databases subscribed to for the French programme. Use is made of existing databases, as appropriate (for example, the MLA International Bibliography database).

Journals

There are a dozen journals currently subscribed to for the French programme. Most of these are in print only.

Audiovisual Material

There is a small amount of audiovisual material collected, mainly in the form of movies. As most movies are foreign language titles / non New Zealand commercial release titles, rating costs are an important consideration. It is the preference of the French programme that all audiovisual material for French be housed at the [Language Learning Centre](#).

Reference Collection

The reference collection has a basic level collection of French material, concentrating on language, history, and society.

Books

There are approximately 1,100 titles in the PC2001-PC3761 (French language) callmark range, and approximately 9,400 titles in the PQ1-PQ3999 (literature in French) callmark range. These are the two most significant collections for the French programme in the library. The library also provides access to over 10,000 e-books on French-related topics. In addition, there are almost 21,000 titles in the French language in the library regardless of callmark or location.

5. Collection Development Guidelines

The primary responsibility for selection lies with the French programme staff.

LC Callmark Range	Subject Area	Current Collection Level	Future Collecting Level
PC2001-PC3761	French language	Study	Research
PQ1-PQ3999	Literature in French	Study	Research

5.1 Languages Collected

Resource materials are collected in both English and French.

5.2 Geographical Areas Collected

The geographical areas of interest are France in particular, as well as the wider French-speaking world (in particular, Quebec and French Polynesia). In addition, Asian and New Zealand material where it relates to these areas is also of interest.

5.3 Chronological Periods Collected

The following chronological periods are collected:

- 19th, 20th century and contemporary literature in French, contemporary French language
- 19th, 20th and contemporary French and Quebec culture and literature

5.4 Publication Dates

The collection is focussed on currently published material, with occasional key older material acquired.

5.5 Format Guidelines

Electronic journals are the preferred format. Print journals are required only if electronic access is unavailable. Purchase of eBooks will be negotiated with academics on a case by case basis.

5.6 Budget Guidelines

Nothing to note at the present.

5.7 Classification Guidelines

The Library of Congress classification system is used.

5.8 Preservation Guidelines

French programme journals are not bound. Any monographs that are beyond repair should be assessed for re-purchase.

5.9 Digitisation Guidelines

To be developed in 2012.

6. Relegation Statement

From 2012 the following criteria will apply:

Books

- items which have not been issued within the last 10 years should be relegated to offsite storage.
- Any such titles should be seen by the French Programme staff first, to make sure key works are not relegated.
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Journals

The following can be relegated to offsite storage:

- full runs of journals no longer subscribed to
- print copies of journals (pre 1980)
- journals with electronic access

7. Deselection Statement

From 2012 the following criteria will apply:

Books

Superseded editions and duplicate titles may be considered for deselection. Deselection will take place in close consultation with French Programme staff.

Journals

Print periodicals available electronically can be considered. In all cases academic staff will review periodicals chosen for deselection.

Other Guidelines/Considerations

The French programme would like to see all French audiovisual material (including movies) moved from the Library to the [Language Learning Centre](#).

The French programme teaches and researches in French language, French and Quebec society and culture, and literature in French.

Over the years the French programme has built up an extensive monograph collection. As a small programme with broad collection needs, there is the usual tension between budget and collection building.

Links to other relevant Subject Level Collection Statements

- [Film](#)