

Subject Level Collection Statement: History

Subject Librarian: Justin Cargill

Subject Librarian Contact Details: Justin.Cargill@vuw.ac.nz

Academic Liaison: Steve Behrendt

Reviewed: September 2015

1. Purpose of the Statement

The purpose of this statement is to provide a framework to guide the collection development and management activities for History. The statement supports the teaching, learning and research activities in the History 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

History has been a significant humanities subject at Victoria University since 1909 and in 1921 a history department was formed following the establishment of the Chair in History. The library collection therefore includes the teaching and research concerns of Victoria's history scholars for over a century.

The programme is interdisciplinary.

For information on the history programme and its courses see the [programme's website](#).

3. Focus of the Subject

History teaching and research at Victoria University currently focuses on the early modern and modern period, with a wide geographic spread which includes the Atlantic World 1492-1850, Britain and Western Europe from 1500, Eastern Europe from 1800, American history, Asian History (principally China from the 1700s and India in the 19th and 20th centuries), and Australian, New Zealand and Pacific history.

A wide range of themes are developed. These include:

- biculturalism and ethnicity
- conflict and warfare (one course looks specifically at the social and cultural meanings of WW1); revolutionary movements
- demographic, migration and environmental history
- economic, labour, industrialisation, and trade history (including the slave trade)
- gender and women's history
- imperialism, colonialism, nationalism, liberalism, socialism
- political history – governments, parties, movements
- race and racism (including holocaust and genocide)

- religious, intellectual, social and cultural history (e.g. propaganda, sport, film and media, and religious radicalism)
- representations and presentation of history, (eg. cinematic representations, historiography, history and theory)

Given that the study of history is interdisciplinary, the History Programme has links within the School with Political Science and International Relations, Philosophy and Sociology. In addition, the programme has links with Māori and Pacific Studies, and the [Stout Research Centre](#), with its research interests clear from the New Zealand Studies programme, and also the [Treaty of Waitangi Research Unit](#). [The Antipodean East European Study Group](#), a non-political scholarly society devoted to advancing knowledge about the peoples and cultures of Eastern Europe, also operates from the History Department.

See the School's [research pages](#) and individual staff [profiles](#) for research areas and lists of publications.

A full list of papers offered may be found on the School's webpages <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/hppi/study/courses/history>

4. Overview of the Current Collection

Books

History is characterised by a heavy usage of books, and because older material remains relevant given the nature of the subject, a solid book collection has been established across the years. The programme uses the limited loan collection extensively. The history reference collection is supplemented by a range of-reference tools in electronic format.

Electronic Resources

The use of primary source material is encouraged from an early stage in the history programme and is an integral part of many courses. The library has been building its collection of primary source databases over the last ten years having acquired over 50 primary source databases with full text and/or image content.

The library is well placed for secondary source indexing and abstracting tools and also subscribes to a number of history databases providing full text content. This is supplemented by a range of multidisciplinary databases many of which provide full text content. For a listing of databases see [here](#).

The [New Zealand Electronic Text Collection's](#) online archive of New Zealand and Pacific Islands texts and heritage materials offers free access to a fully searchable set of images and full-text books, manuscripts and journals.

Journals

Largely due to electronic access, the library has current subscriptions to 39 of the 40 most cited journals for 2014 in the category of History (ISI Journal Citation Reports impact factors).

Resources in other formats

Primary source material is also held in other formats. Examples are *DVD recordings* such as Testimonies - Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation; *microfiche* such as Archives of the destruction - a photographic record of the holocaust, and *microfilm* such as Curzon,

India and empire: the papers of Lord Curzon (1859-1925); India during the Raj: eyewitness accounts. Part 1, Diaries and related records c. 1750; Anti-slavery collection, 18th-19th centuries; Plantation life in the Caribbean; China through western eyes: manuscript records of traders, travellers, missionaries and diplomats, 1792-1942.

In addition, the Library is increasingly engaged with online streaming audiovisual and eTV (on-demand recording from Freeview and subscription TV channels) and history will profit from this development.

Special Collections

The library's special materials collection (the [J.C. Beaglehole Room](#)) provides access to a range of primary source material, most notably relating to New Zealand.

Victoria University's History Programme benefits from close physical proximity to New Zealand's major national collections, research repositories and public records archives such as the [National Library](#), [Alexander Turnbull Library](#), [Archives New Zealand](#), the [Parliamentary Library](#) and [Ngā Taonga Sound & Vision](#). It is also closely located to public history institutions such as the Ministry of Culture and Heritage with its History Group projects, the [New Zealand Historic Places Trust](#), and the Museum of New Zealand, [Te Papa Tongarewa](#).

5. Collection Development Guidelines

For general policy refer to the CDMP [section 4.3](#)

Primary responsibility for selection lies with the School's academic staff as per [section 4.5.2](#) in the CDMP.

LC Callmark Range	Subject Area	Current Collection Level	Future Collecting Level
BX1-9999.	Christian denominations. In relation to history	Research	Research
C1-51	Auxiliary sciences of history (General)	Study	Study
CT21-9999	Biography -general collective or individual biography only	Basic	Study
D1-2027	History (General) Including Europe (General)	Study	Research
D501-680	History (General) - World War 1 (1914-1918)	Study	Research
DA1-995	History of Great Britain (England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland)	Study	Research
DAW1001-1051	History of Central Europe	Study	Research
DB1-3150	History of Austria incl. Austro-Hungarian Empire	Study	Study
DB901-999	History of Hungary	Basic	Study
DB2000-3150	History of Czechoslovakia	Basic	Study
DC1-947	History of France	Study	Study

DD1-905.22	History of Germany	Study	Study
DF10-951	History of Greece	Basic	Basic
DG11-980.2	History of Italy	Study	Study
DJ1-500.22	History of Netherlands (Holland)	Minimal	Study
DJK1-77	Eastern Europe	Study	Study
DK1-949.5	History of Russia. Soviet Union. Former Soviet Republics	Study	Study
DK4010-4800	History of Poland	Basic	Study
DP1.402	History of Spain	Basic	Basic (Study for 1400-1600 period)
DP501-900	History of Portugal	Minimal	Basic (Study for 1400-1600 period)
DR1-2285	Balkan Peninsula	Basic	Study
DS49-49.7	History of Arab countries	Study	Study
DS401-486.8	History of India – colonial and postcolonial	Research	Research
DS701-799.9	History of China	Study	Research
DT1-3415	History of Africa	Study	Study
DU1-950	History of Oceania (South Seas)	Study	Research
DU80-398	Australia	Study	Research
DU400-430	New Zealand	Research	Research
DU490	Melanesia (General)	Study	Research
DU500	Micronesia (General)	Study	Research
DU510	Polynesia (General)	Study	Research
DU520-950	Smaller island groups	Study	Research
E31-49.2	North America including biography, general works, social life and customs, intellectual life, history	Study	Study
E151-883	United States	Research	Research
E186-453	U.S. Colonial history, 1607-1775 to the Civil War 1861	Study	Research
E456-655	U.S. Civil War period, 1861-1865	Study	Study
E660-938	U.S. Late nineteenth century, 1865-1900	Research	Research
E740-837.7	U.S. Twentieth century	Research	Research
E743-744.5	U.S. Political and Diplomatic history	Research	Research
E747-748	U.S. Biography	Study	Study
E838-883	U.S. Later Twentieth Century, 1961-2000	Research	Research
E895-905	U.S. Twenty-first century	Research	Research
F1-975	United States local history	Study	Study
F1201-3799	Latin America. Spanish America	Basic	Study
GF1-900	Human ecology. Anthropogeography – Research esp. GF13-13.3 History. Environmental	Study	Study

	history		
GN662-671	Anthropology. Ethnology. Australia and Pacific Islands	Study	Research
GV1-1860	Recreation. Leisure	Study	Research
HC1-1085.2	Economic history and conditions	Research	Research
HD72-88	Economic development and growth	Research	Study
HD4851-4855	Industries. Land use. Labor. Work. Working class—History—Modern	Research	Research
HF 497-499	Commerce. History 1789 -	Research	Research
HF1351-1647	International economic relations	Research	Research
HF2999-4055	Commerce – Commercial history of a Region or Country	Research	Research
HM551	Sociology. Relation to history and geography-	Research	Research
HN1-995	Social history and conditions. Social problems. Social reform	Research	Research
HQ1-2044	The Family. Marriage. Women	Study	Research
HT1-1595.22	Communities. Classes. Races. (Settlements, urban, rural groups)	Research	Research
HT851-1445	Slavery and the slave trade	Study	Research
HX1-970.72	Socialism. Communism. Utopias. Anarchism	Research	Research
JC311-314	Nationalism	Study	Research
JN1-9692.2	Political institutions and public administration (Europe)	Research	Research
PN1993-1995	Drama - Motion pictures	Study	Research
Q124.6-127.2 [QH366-QH366.2]	History of science	Study	Study
VK1-1661	Navigation. Merchant marine.	Basic	Study

5.1 Languages Collected

English is the preferred language for new acquisitions but no resource is excluded based on the criteria of language alone. Primary source material in other languages is collected on a case-by-case basis.

5.2 Geographical Areas Collected

Current research and teaching focus in the programme is geographically widespread, including British and European history (early modern and modern), New Zealand, Pacific and Australian history, Asian history (notably China and India); the Middle East (Arab and Persian

national experiences); North America, Africa; the Atlantic world (primarily slavery and race issues).

5.3 Chronological Periods Collected

The following chronological periods are collected:

- New Zealand from the 1700s
- Australian history from 1700s
- Pacific history from initial settlement to the present
- History of Empires since 1400
- Western Europe from the Enlightenment to the present
- Eastern Europe from the 1800s to the present
- U.K. from 1500
- U.S. history from 1607
- Atlantic World from 1492 through to 1850
- China post 1700
- India from the 19th century
- Africa from the 1500s (slave trade context)
- Middle East in the 20th century

5.4 Format Guidelines

Please refer to sections [4.1 \(e\)](#) and [4.3.2](#) of the CDMP.

Books

Purchase of eBooks will be negotiated with academics on a case- by- case basis. Where copies are expected to be extensively used (in undergraduate courses or where chapter contents are included in course readings) then eBooks are the preferred format.

Journals

Electronic journals are the preferred format. Print journals are subscribed to only if electronic access is unavailable.

6. *Life-Cycle Management Guidelines*

For general policy refer to [section 4.4.1](#) of CDMP

Wherever possible, the potential life-cycle of new materials will be considered at the point of acquisition and accessible notes made as to any continuing historical or research value.

6.1 Preservation Guidelines

For general policy on preservation refer to the CDMP [section 4.4.4](#)

Careful attention to older classic well worn texts is necessary. Titles will be assessed for mending or replacement.

6.2 Relegation Statement

For general principles refer to [section 4.4.1](#) and [Guidelines for Evaluating Print Journals](#)

The following relegation criteria will apply as a general rule.

Journals

- Print journals published in the last 15 years which support current teaching, study or research needs will be retained in the Kelburn Library.
- Print journals published before the last 15 years will be held in offsite storage.
- Print journals which do not support current teaching, study or research will be relegated to offsite storage.
- Print journals no longer required for teaching, study or research purposes will be cancelled (in consultation with academic staff). Other areas will be consulted where there is interdisciplinary content.
- Cancelled print subscriptions remain in off-site storage until deselection is negotiated with academic staff.

Books

Books will be retained in the library collection in the following locations:

Kelburn Library

- Books relevant to current teaching, study and research and which have been issued in the last 10 years.
- Single copies of different editions of classic or influential works.
- Multiple copies of editions (including superseded editions) used for study or teaching if usage warrants.

Offsite Storage

- Books which are not relevant to current teaching, study or research will be relegated to offsite storage and reviewed for deselection.
- Books which have not been issued in the last 10 years.

6.3. Deselection Statement

For general principles please refer to [section 4.4.3](#) in the CDMP and [Guidelines for Evaluating Print Journals](#).

In all cases the subject librarian oversees this process, consults where appropriate and makes recommendations to relevant academic staff.

Journals

- Print journals will be deselected where the library has equivalent perpetual electronic access.
- Print journals cancelled because they no longer support research or teaching will be reviewed for deselection. If there is interdisciplinary content other subject areas will be consulted.

Books

Books will be reviewed for deselection according to the following criteria:

- Duplicate copies when usage has fallen or when there is duplication within the collection in other formats, e.g. electronic.
- Superseded editions.
- Worn, badly marked or damaged books (these will be assessed for replacement as aworn condition may indicate high usage).
- Items used for informational purposes that contain out-of-date, misleading or inaccurate information (unless the inaccuracies shed useful light on the state of knowledge of a subject at a particular time).
- Not relevant to teaching or research needs (current or anticipated).
- Items not used in the last 15 years.

Special care will be made to retain items regardless of usage which fall into the following categories:

- Books authored by academic staff (past or present) and alumni.
- Items related to local history.
- Primary source material.

7. *Links to other relevant Subject Level Collection Statements*

- [Art History](#)
- [Asian Studies](#)
- [Classics](#)
- [Cultural Anthropology](#)
- [Economics](#)
- [Geography, Environmental Studies, and Development Studies](#)
- [J.C. Beaglehole Room \(Special Materials\) Collection](#)
- [Māori and Indigenous Studies](#)
- [Pacific Studies and Samoan Studies](#)
- [Philosophy](#)
- [Politics and International Relations](#)
- [Religious Studies](#)
- [Sociology and Social Policy](#)