

Subject Level Collection Statement: Information Studies

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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 Information Studies. The statement supports the teaching, learning and research activities in Information Studies within the Faculty of Commerce.

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

2. Description of the Academic Subject

Information Studies has developed and broadened from its origins as the professional course of study in Librarianship. Librarianship as an academic subject was first taught at Victoria in 1980, following the establishment of the Department of Librarianship in 1979.

Victoria University of Wellington (VUW) is the only tertiary provider in New Zealand offering postgraduate programmes in this subject.

Further information can be found on the School of Information Management [website](#).

3. Focus of the Subject

Information Studies is a broad-based, technology-focused subject for information professionals, with content and structure evolving regularly to reflect the dynamic and rapidly changing work environment of information and communication technologies. The subject encompasses the sub-fields of:

- library science
- archives and records management

All papers are taught by the [School of Information Management](#) (SIM), at postgraduate level, and all programmes can be studied onsite or by distance. SIM is a member of the Web-based Information Science Education ([WISE](#)) Consortium, a partnership of library and information studies schools primarily based in North America. As part of their electives, VUW's MLIS and PG Cert/Dip ArcRec students can enrol in online papers taught by WISE schools. SIM also has close associations with [Wai-te-ata Press](#), which offers hands-on experience in letterpress printing to students enrolled in selected Library and Information Studies papers.

Courses offered by the school are listed in [Courses Offered in the Programmes](#).

Teaching focus

The goals of the Information Studies Programmes are to provide students with:

- Knowledge of the principles and techniques required of an information professional oriented to one or all types of library or information centre, system or service, including library, archival, and records management, and other related disciplines.
- An awareness and understanding of the total context in which information professionals operate (especially in New Zealand).
- The knowledge and attitudes necessary to work as information professionals in a bicultural partnership environment.
- An understanding of the theories, principles and methodologies that form the foundation of information studies internationally.
- Proficiency in the skills of management, leadership, advocacy, problem-solving, and decision-making relevant to information professionals working in a rapidly changing environment.
- Professional attitudes regarding scholarship, ethics, intellectual freedom, and access to information in a democratic society.
- An enriched learning environment that draws upon the people and resources of the nation's capital city to enhance the curriculum.
- A sound foundation for continuing professional development in information work.

Research focus

The School of Information Management has a strong research culture and has established four [Areas of Strategic Distinctiveness](#) as the cornerstone of its research activities. The relevant areas for Information Studies are:

- Area 3 - Knowledge Organisation and Knowledge Management
- Area 4 - Information Institutions, Behaviour and Resources

Staff research

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/sim/research/research-projects>

Student research

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/sim/research/research-students>

4. Overview of the Current Collection

The Information Studies collection is strong in the core area of librarianship and consists of a good blend of recent and historical material.

The areas of archives and records management were added to the programme (as electives) in 1992. The collection in these two areas could be considered inadequate with large gaps, and is a key focus for on-going development.

The collection draws on, and overlaps with, the Information Systems collection in particular, and to a lesser extent the Computer Science collection. Collecting in other areas of the Library also supports Information Studies, for example:

- Museum and Heritage Studies literature
- Management literature
- Children's literature (at the WJ Scott Library and in the English programmes).

E-books are purchased when available as these are particularly important in order to support the distance students which are a feature of the programme.

Books

The Library has a large number e-books and books devoted to Information Studies, covering the subjects of libraries & librarianship, archives, records management, knowledge management/information management and book publishing.

The bulk of the Information Studies print books are held at the Kelburn Library where the collections originated. The smaller number of print books at the Commerce Library primarily serves the courses taught at Pipitea and consists of textbooks and related course material.

Publications of [Facet Publishing](#) and [ALA Publishing](#) are significant and are routinely selectively collected especially if practice-oriented and not country specific. [Chandos Publishing](#) is also important and [sets of e-books](#) are collected. YBP Library Services offers a publisher list for the subject here: [Library Science and Reference Publishing](#)

Journals

The Library's journal collection provides excellent coverage of the key journals to support the research, teaching and learning needs of Information Studies. More detail is available in the Appendix.

- With few exceptions titles are accessible online
- All but one of the top 25 titles from the *Journal citation reports* listing in the subject area of "Information Science & Library Science" are held
- All of the top 20 journals in the field according to a respected prospective study are also held

The Library holds approximately 84 specialised journals of interest to Information Studies in total. These provide a good mix of scholarly and professional literature.

Electronic resources

[Core databases for Information Studies](#) are:

- LISA (Library & Information Science Abstracts)
- LISTA (Library, Information Sciences & Technology Abstracts)
- LLIS (Library Literature & Information Science Fulltext) electronic database with abstracts and full text articles.
- Emerald

[IT-focused databases](#) are:

- ProQuest Computing
- ACM Digital Library
- AIS Electronic Library (AISeL)

Distinctive collections

- Postgraduate research papers collection contains research papers by VUW students. From 1996, this collection contains MLIS research papers, MA theses in Library and Information Studies and PhD theses in LIBR or INFO. The [Research Archive](#) contains recent digital papers and a programme of digitising all earlier papers is in place. 600-700 MLIS research reports have recently been digitised.
- [Wai-te-ata Press](#) has a research collection of artefacts documenting Wellington's printing and publishing heritage, e.g. historic presses, type and equipment from newspaper houses and defunct printing, the extant printery of the printmaker and watercolourist John L. Moore, and the archives and library of the (now disestablished) Book Arts Society of New Zealand
- The [Print History Project](#) provides digitised information on Wellington's book trade, 1840-2000. This was a collaborative effort between VUW's New Zealand Electronic Text Centre, Wai-te-ata Press and the university library's J.C. Beaglehole Room, with assistance from local archives, libraries and institutions.

5. Collection Development Guidelines

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

Collection levels are described and defined in [section 4.5.2](#) of the CDMP.

| LC Callmark Range | Subject Area | Current Collection Level | Future Collecting Level |
|-------------------|---|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| CD921-CD4280 | Archives | Basic | Research |
| HD30.35 | Communication of information – information services – general works | Study | Study |
| HD30.36 | Computer networks. Electronic information resources | Study | Study |
| HD30.37 | Business enterprises – computer networks | Study | Study |
| HD30.385 | Intranets | Basic | Study |
| HF5735-HF5746 | Business records management | Basic | Research |
| T58.5-T58.64 | Information technology | Study | Study |
| Z4-Z8 | History of books and book-making | Study | Study |
| Z1001 | Introduction to bibliography | Study | Study |
| Z124-Z228 | Book industries and trade | Study | Study |
| Z662-Z1000.5 | Libraries | Research | Research |
| ZA3038-ZA5190 | Information resources | Research | Research |
| Z1-ZA5185 | Bibliography, Library Science | Research | Research |

5.1 Languages Collected

English is the preferred language for new acquisitions; however no resource is excluded based on the criteria of language alone.

5.2 Geographical Areas Collected

Collecting focuses on New Zealand, Australia, UK, Canada the USA and the Pacific Islands, but no countries or areas of the world are specifically excluded.

5.3 Chronological Periods Collected

The focus is on recent and current materials with occasional key older materials collected.

5.4 Format Guidelines

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

6. Life-Cycle Management Guidelines

Refer to [Section 4.4.1](#) of the 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

Refer to [Section 4.4.4](#) of the CDMP.

Recent VUW working papers are digitally-born, accessed and preserved in the [ResearchArchive](#).

Print journals are not bound. Books are repaired to extend their life. Any books which are beyond repair should be assessed for re-purchase, with eBook format preferred.

6.2 Relegation Statement

Refer to [Section 4.1\(b\)](#) of the CDMP.

Books

All books held at the Commerce Library are only to be retained as part of a Course Reserve list. A small Reference collection will also be maintained in the Commerce Library, in accordance with the guidelines for book retention. Items not on Course Reserve will be returned to the Kelburn Library collection. This will be overseen by Client Services staff at the end of each trimester.

Current editions of text books on Course Reserve, and one edition previous, will also be retained to cover demand.

Commerce books will be considered for relegation to the Offsite collection subject to the following guidelines:

- Items not issued in the past five years
- Single copies of superseded textbooks older than one edition previous

Journals

Print items in the Commerce journal collection are evaluated for relegation annually, or as necessary, according to the Library's [Guidelines for Evaluating Print Journals](#).

Working Papers and Discussion Papers

All working and discussion papers will be treated as print journals, with the same relegation guidelines being applicable.

6.3 Deselection Statement

Refer to [Section 4.4.3](#) of the CDMP.

In all cases the Subject Librarian oversees this process, consulting with and making recommendations to relevant academic staff where appropriate.

Books

Print books will be reviewed for deselection according to the following criteria:

- Items in poor condition or duplicate copies
- Duplicate copies of superseded textbooks older than one edition previous
- Items where a subsequent electronic copy is acquired
- Items not requested from offsite storage within the last five years
- Items no longer supporting teaching or research needs (current or anticipated)
- Books in a language other than English, and not issued in the last five years.

Journals

Print items in the Commerce journal collection are evaluated for deselection annually, or as necessary, according to the Library's [Guidelines for Evaluating Print Journals](#).

Print journals eligible for deselection may be sent to the CONZUL store if a copy is not already held there.

7. Links to other relevant Subject Level Collection Statements

- Information Systems
- [Museum and Heritage Studies](#)
- [Computer Science](#)

Appendix – Journal Collection

3.1 Top journals by impact factor

All but one of the top 25 titles from the *Journal citation reports* listing in the subject area of “Information Science & Library Science” are held.

| Information Studies Journals ¹ | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|-----------|------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| | Abbreviated Journal Title | ISSN | 2010 Total Cites | Impact Factor | 5-Year Impact Factor |
| 1. | MIS QUART | 0276-7783 | 7419 | 5.041 | 9.821 |
| 2. | INFORM SYST RES | 1047-7047 | 3517 | 3.358 | 5.458 |
| 3. | J INFORMETR | 1751-1577 | 397 | 3.119 | 3.586 |
| 4. | J INF TECHNOL | 0268-3962 | 1083 | 2.907 | 3.447 |
| 5. | J STRATEGIC INF SYST | 0963-8687 | 910 | 2.900 | 3.795 |
| 6. | J MANAGE INFORM SYST | 0742-1222 | 3080 | 2.662 | 4.054 |
| 7. | INFORM MANAGE-AMSTER | 0378-7206 | 3273 | 2.627 | 3.901 |
| 8. | J ASSOC INF SYST | 1536-9323 | 579 | 2.217 | |
| 9. | INFORM SYST J | 1350-1917 | 695 | 2.184 | 3.020 |
| 10. | J AM SOC INF SCI TEC | 1532-2882 | 4202 | 2.137 | 2.113 |
| 11. | ANNU REV INFORM SCI | 0066-4200 | 428 | 2.000 | 2.354 |
| 12. | J COMPUT-MEDIAT COMM | 1083-6101 | 1482 | 1.958 | 3.279 |
| 13. | SCIENTOMETRICS | 0138-9130 | 3602 | 1.905 | 2.415 |
| 14. | GOV INFORM Q | 0740-624X | 650 | 1.878 | 2.177 |
| 15. | EUR J INFORM SYST | 0960-085X | 1071 | 1.767 | 2.210 |
| 16. | INFORM PROCESS MANAG | 0306-4573 | 1936 | 1.673 | 1.786 |
| 17. | INT J INFORM MANAGE | 0268-4012 | 860 | 1.564 | 1.779 |
| 18. | MIS Q EXEC | 1540-1960 | 269 | 1.562 | |
| 19. | J HEALTH COMMUN | 1081-0730 | 1194 | 1.500 | 2.555 |
| 20. | INT J GEOGR INF SCI | 1365-8816 | 1931 | 1.489 | 2.162 |
| 21. | INT J COMP-SUPP COLL | 1556-1607 | 160 | 1.487 | 2.026 |
| 22. | J DOC | 0022-0418 | 995 | 1.447 | 1.407 |
| 23. | J INF SCI | 0165-5515 | 923 | 1.406 | 1.860 |
| 24. | LIBR INFORM SCI RES | 0740-8188 | 444 | 1.362 | 1.248 |
| 25. | INFORM SOC | 0197-2243 | 615 | 1.240 | 1.714 |

¹ Thomson Reuters (2010) *Journal citation reports: Social science edition*. Retrieved from <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/online/redirect/100292.html>

3.2 Top journals by perception study

Another accepted way of measuring the significance of journals is by perception study
The Library holds all of the top 20 journals using this method:

| Journals Listed among the Top Five Most Prestigious by ARL Directors² | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------------|---|
| | Journal Title | Number of Times Listed | Percentage of the 56 Directors Who Listed It |
| 1. | College & Research Libraries | 40 | 71.4 |
| 2. | Journal of Academic Librarianship | 27 | 48.2 |
| 3. | Library Trends | 26 | 46.4 |
| 4. | Library Quarterly | 17 | 30.4 |
| 5. | Portal: Libraries and the Academy | 14 | 25.0 |
| 6. | Journal of the American Society for Info. Science & Technology | 14 | 25.0 |
| 7. | Reference & User Services Quarterly | 13 | 23.2 |
| 8. | Library Resources & Technical Services | 10 | 17.9 |
| 9. | D-Lib Magazine | 8 | 14.3 |
| 10. | Annual Review of Information Science & Technology | 7 | 12.5 |
| 11. | Information Technology & Libraries | 7 | 12.5 |
| 12. | Library Collections, Acquisitions & Technical Services | 7 | 12.5 |
| 13. | Library Journal | 6 | 10.7 |
| 14. | Educause Review | 3 | 5.4 |
| 15. | Journal of the Medical Library Association | 3 | 5.4 |
| 16. | Reference Services Review | 3 | 5.4 |
| 17. | Collection Management | 2 | 3.6 |
| 18. | First Monday | 2 | 3.6 |
| 19. | Journal of Documentation | 2 | 3.6 |
| 20. | Journal of Information Science | 2 | 3.6 |

² Nisonger, T. E. and C. H. Davis (2005). "The Perception of Library and Information Science Journals by LIS Education Deans and ARL Library Directors: A Replication of the Kohl–Davis Study." *College & Research Libraries* 66(4): 341-377.