



**Georgia State University Library  
Collection Development Policy  
Department of Biology**

**Purpose of the Collection:** To support the curricular and research needs of faculty and students in the Department of Biology. The Department offers courses of study leading to the Bachelor of Arts, Master of Science, and Ph.D. Although not required, students pursuing a major in biology may choose one of the following concentrations: microbiology; cell and molecular biology and physiology; molecular genetics and biochemistry; and neurobiology and behavior. Areas of strength at the Masters and Ph.D. levels include: applied and environmental microbiology; bioinformatics; cell and molecular biology and physiology; molecular genetics and biochemistry; and neurobiology and behavior. In addition, the Department offers a Masters in Biology Medical Science Concentration which teaches concepts and skills central to the practice of medicine. Many of the courses are taught using case-based or problem-based instruction methods. The Department supports the following research centers: Center for Behavioral Neuroscience, Center for Diagnostics and Therapeutics, Center for Obesity Reversal, Language Research Center, Center for Neuromics, Center for Biotechnology and Drug Design, and the Center for Inflammation, Immunity, and Infection. The Department is also heavily involved in the Brains and Behavior Program of the Neuroscience Institute, the Institute for Biomedical Sciences, and the Molecular Basis of Disease area of focus program.

**General Collection Guidelines:**

- a. **Languages:** English is the primary language of the collection.
- b. **Chronological Guidelines:** Current scholarship is the primary focus.
- c. **Geographical Guidelines:** No limit is placed on the geographic scope of materials.
- d. **Date of Publication:** Emphasis is placed on current materials. Retrospective purchasing is very selective.
- e. **Types of Materials:** Periodicals are of primary interest; monographs are of some importance. Encyclopedias, dictionaries, proceedings/transactions of conferences/congresses/ symposia, data collections, and media are selected as needed.
- f. **Treatment of the Subject:** The emphasis is on upper-level and graduate level materials; consideration is also given to maintaining a strong undergraduate collection.

Although the collection covers all aspects of the biological sciences, current collecting emphasizes neuroscience, microbiology and immunology, biochemistry, bioinformatics, evolutionary and developmental biology, cellular and molecular biology, physiology and genetics. Items on individual species, viruses, and organisms applicable to the research of the department are also collected. Biography and general interest material are selectively purchased.

**Related Collection Development Policies:**

- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Kinesiology and Health
- Mathematics and Statistics
- Neuroscience
- Nursing
- Nutrition
- Psychology
- Public Health
- Respiratory Therapy

Revised: 08/2017