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Collection Development Policy, Health Professions

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Collection Development Statement

Department: Health Professions
Drafted by: Renee Cole Montgomery

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Purpose of the Collection

The primary focus of the library’s health professions collection is to support the curriculum and the research endeavors of students and faculty at the undergraduate and doctoral levels. Users are primarily the Health Professions faculty members and the undergraduate and graduate students.

Programs offered include:
The Department of Health Professions prepares Health Sciences Pre-Clinical, Physical Therapy and Athletic Training students to be advocates and providers of evidence-based practices in health care settings. The department fosters inter-professional collaboration among faculty, students, and the larger community. We are committed to clinical excellence, professional ethics, and lifelong learning.

Undergraduate Programs:
B.S. in Athletic Training
The AT Program is designed to enable students to demonstrate, in the classroom and during clinical rotations, that they have achieved levels of comprehension, competency and proficiency expected of entry-level athletic trainers. The program’s classroom component is divided into several areas of study: foundational science courses, athletic training theory and practice, and clinical science. The information is presented in a prescribed sequence of courses. Each course identifies specific objectives to be met. The courses are designed to expose students to information through multiple didactic, laboratory and clinical experiences. These courses incorporate the content required to establish the foundational behaviors of professional practice and the content set forth by the 5th Edition of the Athletic Training Educational Competencies.

B.S. in Health Sciences Pre-Clinical Program
UCF established the HSPC Program in 2006. Since then the program has undergone revisions and implementations to further enhance faculty teaching and student preparation. Enrollment in the HSPC major has surpassed 3,000 students, making it the second largest major at UCF (2014 data). The major is designed for students with an interest in human health leading to graduate study or career advancement. Students are provided with a solid educational background in basic science courses and courses in pathophysiology, pharmacology, preventive health care, epidemiology of chronic diseases and nutrition. Integrated within the curriculum are the foundation courses required for admission to graduate and professional health programs including but not limited to medicine, pharmacy, physical therapy, physician assistant and occupational therapy.

Health Sciences Minor
The Health Sciences Minor is designed to increase the student’s knowledge base in the areas of health care, health promotion and disease prevention. It may prove beneficial to students seeking future employment within the health care arena and for students applying to various health-related academic programs. This minor is only available to students currently enrolled at the University of Central Florida.

Doctoral Programs
Doctor of Physical Therapy
The Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.) Program educates students to become competent, compassionate and ethical practitioners in a variety of health care settings. The program is a full-time professional doctoral program requiring completion of 112 credits beyond the bachelor’s degree. The course work is taken in a prescribed sequence over nine semesters as provided here and all course work is required. The program
requires a total of 34 weeks of full-time clinical training. During the clinical affiliations, students work under the direct supervision of a licensed physical therapist.

Collection Description:

The health professions collection consists mainly of books and periodicals (print and electronic) housed in the John C. Hitt Library on the Orlando campus. However, some works are housed at the UCF Regional Campus libraries. The library provides access to many medicine-related databases, including Medline and CINAHL (Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature), and Cochran Database of Systematic Reviews. The library also provides other subject databases, including SPORTDiscus, PsycInfo, and ERIC. The library also purchases access to many electronic journal collections.

Collection Guidelines:

Chronology: Emphasis/restriction
Emphasis is on current research. While attempts will be made to fill in gaps of retrospective material when funding permits, the primary focus of the collection is on current research materials.

Languages: Emphasis/restriction
Although there are no limitations to the languages the library collects, the emphasis is on English works and English translations.

Geography: Emphasis/restriction
No limit is placed on the geographical scope of the collection.

Subject Treatment
All materials related to health care will be considered for addition to the collection, especially those that directly support the curriculum and research needs of the students and faculty of Health Sciences, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Training.

Material Formats: Emphasis/restriction
Journals and monographs are the primary formats. Electronic access to journals is a high priority considering the increase in the number of online and mixed mode courses.

Publication Dates
Emphasis is on materials published within the last five years. The acquisition of retrospective materials depends on the availability of the resource, its content, and budgetary constraints.

Subjects Collected and Collection Levels:

Health Care encompasses many areas concerning prevention, diagnosis, and treatment within many different environments. Researchers’ interests may fall anywhere from Pre-Clinical, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Training. With this discipline it is difficult to list all of the subjects likely to be collected and their levels. Every effort is made through input from faculty, as well as the library’s approval plan, and publishers’ catalogs to make sure all materials relevant to the research interests and curricular interests of the program are purchased.
Subjects Excluded:
All subject matter is acceptable for the collection with an emphasis on those areas in which the students and faculty are actively engaged in research. Works intended for the consumers or patients (consumer health) are collected minimally.

Collection Management Issues:

Replacement
Attempts are made to replace items that are lost, stolen, or damaged. Exceptions include outdated or superseded editions unless there is a specific need or historical significance.

Retention/Deselection
Generally material is not deselected unless its condition has deteriorated past the point of usability. Attempts are made to repair and retain damaged or deteriorating items. Outdated, unused, or no longer reliable materials may be removed from the collection in some cases. Periodicals or electronic resources may be weeded when they are no longer subscribed to and related programs have been discontinued, or when replaced by another format.

Out of Print Acquisition
Internet access to out-of-print dealers often makes acquisition of these items more convenient than in the past. As with other materials, out-of-print titles will be acquired if there is a clear need and the price is reasonable.

Preservation
The Collection Development Librarian will consult with the Special Collections Department on all matters relating to the care, repair, and safekeeping of all circulating library materials regardless of format type. Preservation issues of importance to the Collection Development Librarian include:

- Collection maintenance of existing materials – rehousing, rebinding, repair, conservation, media transfer
- Deacidification projects - selected titles, whole collections, or partial collections
- Reformatting materials to microfilm or digital images
- Questions related to gifts-in-kind that may require preservation attention before materials are added to the collection