
Libraries' Documents

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Collection Development Policy, Physics

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Collection Development Statement

Department: Physics
Drafted by: Rachel Viggiano
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Revised by: Patti McCall
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Collection purpose

The purpose of the library collection in Physics is to support the coursework and research needs of students at the undergraduate and graduate levels, and to support the instructional and research activities of the Physics faculty. Other academic departments, which might make use of, the Physics collection includes: Biology, Chemistry, various Engineering departments, Mathematics, and Optics. Users other than the UCF Physics and related departments include affiliates from the Center for Research in Electro-optics and Lasers (CREOL), the Advanced Materials Processing and Analysis Center (AMPAC), and a variety of other users in the Central Florida community.

Degree Programs

Doctor of Philosophy in Physics

Students choose one of the following tracks: General Physics or Planetary Sciences

Master of Science in Physics

Students choose one of the following tracks: General Physics or Planetary Sciences

Bachelor of Science in Physics

Students choose one of the following areas of specialization: General Physics, Materials Physics, Optics and Lasers, Computational Physics, or Astronomy/Planetary Sciences

The Physics Department is a Ph.D. granting department and has active experimental and theoretical research programs in nanoscale physics, biophysics, astronomy/planetary science, condensed matter, magnetism, atomic physics, semiconductor physics and physics education research.

Collection Description

The bulk of the Physics collection is housed in the UCF Library on the Orlando campus and includes print and electronic books. Databases include Web of Science, IEEE Explore, Springer Materials, Landolt Bornstein, Science Direct, SciFinder, Applied Science, and Solid State & Super Conductivity Abstracts, American Institute of Physics, and Institute of Physics Journals. Government publications contain primary data and policy information that are also important to the study of Physics. As a member of the Federal Depository Library Program, the UCF Libraries receive more than 94 percent of

non-classified federal documents. The addition to federal publications, as a depository for Florida State publications, issued Florida documents are also received by the UCF Libraries.

Collection guidelines

Chronology: Emphasis/restrictions

Emphasis is on current research, as well as the history and philosophy of modern physics.

Languages: Emphasis/restrictions

Although there are no limitations as to which languages the libraries collect, the emphasis is placed on English works and English translations. There are some French and German titles, and several polyglot dictionaries and journals.

Geography: Emphasis/restrictions

No limit is placed on the geographic scope of the collection.

Subject treatment

All subject areas within Physics and Astronomy are collected, with the emphasis on those fields in which the Physics Department has research programs.

Material formats: Emphasis/restrictions

Journals and monographs are the primary format for Physics materials. Conference proceedings are also collected, along with reference works, and electronic resources (primarily journals). Some videos and DVD's are collected, as well as Astronomical maps.

Publication dates

Emphasis is on materials published within the last five years. The acquisition of retrospective materials depends on the availability of the resource; it's content, and budgetary constraints.

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 within the Physics department 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

Every attempt should be made to keep materials in serviceable condition. When deterioration occurs, attempts will be made to prevent further decay and preserve the usability of the item.