



GOTHENBURG UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Acquisition policy of the Gothenburg University Library

General guidelines

The Gothenburg University Library acquires printed and electronic resources for the purposes of research and study at the eight faculties of the University of Gothenburg: the School of Business, Economics and Law, the Faculty of Arts, the IT Faculty, the Faculty of Fine, Applied and Performing Arts, the Faculty of Science, the Sahlgrenska Academy, the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Faculty of Education.

We aim to carry out our acquisition in co-operation with the university's departments and researchers. Collections are considered to be jointly held by the respective branches of the university library. Acquisition should be flexible and possible to adapt to changes occurring within the University of Gothenburg. The acquisition policy should act as a support in this process, and be regularly updated.

Media selection

Our goal is to acquire all types of media that could be requested within a scientific context, and especially in connection with the research carried out at the University of Gothenburg. However, restrictions may apply to certain kinds of materials.

Acquisition

Books

The university library acquires academic literature through subject monitoring and by acquisition requests.

For printed books, the university library adheres to the university's general agreement on the purchase of books, which excludes purchases from certain online providers and private actors.

The acquisition of e-books is largely guided by our patrons. E-books (individual titles and packages) are purchased from publishers and providers who offer library solutions regarding searchability, storage and copyright. In the acquisition process, we prefer providers who offer as generous terms as possible in regards to simultaneous use, ownership, printing and downloading.

Journals

The bulk of the journals acquired by the library are electronic, and mostly come as part of the large packages offered by publishers. Purchase of individual titles mainly occurs as a result of

an acquisition request submitted by our patrons. Online editions are preferred, to facilitate user access.

Databases and e-book packages

The university library seeks to provide good access to, and an even distribution of databases within the subject fields of the university. Databases and e-book packages are preferably chosen in co-operation with the departments and various groups of researchers.

Acquisition requests

Acquisition requests are welcome, and primarily intended for the university's researchers, teachers and students. Requests can be submitted through the online form on our homepage, <https://www.ub.gu.se/find-resources/suggest-a-purchase-of-new-material>

Interlibrary loan requests for more recently published items should be regarded as possible acquisition requests.

Legal deposit

The Gothenburg University Library is one of six Swedish university libraries which, apart from the National Library of Sweden, receive a copy of every Swedish printed item. The delivery times for printed matter from printers and publishers may vary. For more information on legal deposits, please refer to the homepage of the National Library of Sweden: <http://www.kb.se/plikt> (in Swedish).

A selection from the legal deposit is distributed according to subject among our different libraries. The Gothenburg University Library is specifically responsible for materials concerning the counties of Västra Götaland and Värmland, as well as the Halland region

Textbooks

The library acquires textbooks for the university's courses, on basic and advanced levels. The number of textbooks available is based on the number of students attending each course. To facilitate student access, we provide reference copies, and if titles are available as e-books, they too are acquired if possible.

Our aim is to be able to provide all textbooks on-shelf at the beginning of the course, and in consequence, we strive to uphold close communications with the teachers of the University of Gothenburg.

Reference literature

If possible, handbooks and reference literature are acquired in online format, in order to be available to multiple users, independently of location and opening hours.

Dissertations and papers

Dissertations published at the University of Gothenburg are incorporated in the collections of the university library, and published online as full text in GUPEA: <https://gupea.ub.gu.se>

Each department is responsible for the registration of its dissertations and papers.

A selection of dissertations from other Swedish seats of learning is kept by the various library units.

Free e-resources

As a rule, free e-resources are not incorporated in the library catalogue, but if they can be considered permanent, they are evaluated according to the same criteria as any other media acquired.

Collection evaluation and maintenance

The university library evaluates and maintains its collections on a regular basis, using bibliometrics and user statistics to optimise the use of resources and premises. It is our responsibility to build qualitative, continuous collections in the interest of research and higher education, and in order to preserve our cultural heritage. Some types of material might be preserved for special research purposes. There should be continuous discussion, and the selection process may differ among the university library units.

Outdated and worn textbooks are weeded on a regular basis. Reference collections and other collections are renewed and weeded with certain regularity. Printed journal editions may be subject to weeding in case of introduction of an online edition.

Special collections

Manuscripts

The Manuscript Section acquires relevant archival materials for the purposes of future studies within liberal arts and the history of science. Acquisitions consist mainly of donations and deposits, though occasional purchases may be made. Our main focus is archival materials of authors, artists and journalists of western Sweden, as well as researchers at the University of Gothenburg and the Gothenburg University College, with sporadic occurrences of other origins.

KvinnSam acquires archives of the women's movement and from Swedish women's organisations, as well as personal archives of female authors, artists and pioneers within various fields, and those of researchers within gender studies. Archival materials of associations and individuals with ties to Gothenburg and western Sweden should be subject to special consideration.

The school textbook collection consists of textbooks and teaching media covering all subjects of the compulsory school and upper secondary school from 1958 onwards. Legal deposits are continuously incorporated in the collections, but no active acquisitions are made.

Information and contact details for other special collections: <http://www2.ub.gu.se/samlingar/>

Antiquarian and older materials

Antiquarian and older materials are acquired as needed, e. g. in case of gaps in the collections, or when materials are lost.

Donations

The university library has a limited capacity to accept donations, and always reserves the right to make its own selection from the material, and to use freely any materials received. In case of larger donations, please contact the director of the library in question.

Contact us

If you have questions or suggestions regarding the acquisition policy, please contact the interdepartmental media supply group: eogmediaforsorjning@ub.gu.se