Collection policy for Latin American Studies’ taught-course and research collections held at the Bodleian Latin American Centre Library and the Bodleian Library

1. Overview

General coverage of Latin American Studies in the Bodleian Libraries

The Bodleian Latin American Centre Library (LAC Library) develops its teaching and research collections primarily in support of the three Master’s courses run by the Latin American Centre (LAC) and the Brazilian Studies Programme (MPhil and MSc in Latin American Studies and MSc in Public Policy in Latin America). The Library also offers support to DPhil students studying Latin American Studies (LAS) throughout the University and undergraduates studying LAS options offered by other departments. The Library orders books (including books on Latin American History) recommended by the LAC fellows and the LAS subject consultant and supports all LAC reading lists, which can be accessed on WebLearn.

The LAS subject consultant, in consultation with the LAC fellows, also orders LAS books for the Bodleian Library’s Latin American Research Collections.

In addition, as the central research library of the University of Oxford, the Bodleian is home to in-depth research-level collections in Latin American History. Various copyright privileges have meant that the library has received almost all books published in the United Kingdom and the United States on Latin America and the Caribbean since circa 1820. As well as purchased materials, the Library has received significant donations which have greatly enhanced the collections. Particular strengths are the Andean republics, Brazil, Mexico and the River Plate, although all areas of mainland Latin America and the Caribbean are covered in some depth.

The LAS collections of the Bodleian Libraries as a whole are interdisciplinary and are spread across a number of different sites. These collections are developed by the subject consultant for each particular discipline (see "6. Appendix"). They include the extensive Latin American History research collection held by the Bodleian Library (see the Collection Policy for Latin American History—follow link to Latin American History Subject Guide and click on "Collection policy document" (PDF)—and the Latin American History Subject Guide).

Legal deposit

The LAC Library does not hold legal deposit material but the LAS subject consultant regularly selects legal deposit titles in the subject area for the Bodleian Social Science Library.

Key Latin American History titles for undergraduate use are selected from the legal deposit intake and placed on open shelves in the Upper Radcliffe Camera. Aside from this small
collection of classic texts, there is no open shelf location in the Bodleian for Latin American History research material.

Note: Electronic Legal deposit (eLD)

At midnight on 5/6 April 2013, new legislation came into force allowing the Bodleian Libraries and the other Legal Deposit Libraries in the UK and Ireland, to access electronic books, articles, web pages and other electronic documents published in the UK. The 2013 Regulations 2013 are being implemented gradually over several years, as the Legal Deposit Libraries agree collectively to accept electronic versions from each UK publisher.

For further information about eLD, please visit the Bodleian Libraries' eLD website or contact the Latin American Centre Librarian.

Electronic resources

The Library, via the use of the LAS subject fund and Social Science Subject Group funding as appropriate, works towards the expansion of the range of electronic resources available in the subject area, with a particular emphasis on full-text resources.

Electronic resources for the study of Latin America include electronic journals, bibliographic and full text databases, as well as a number of e-books. In consultation with the relevant Faculties, the subject consultants review subject-specific subscription databases on a regular basis. Free scholarly resources are also evaluated and added to the resource provision if appropriate. These resources can be accessed via OxLIP+.

Grey Literature and microforms

The Library houses an extensive collection of grey literature, assembled over four decades, which until 2010 had not been recorded on the Oxford Libraries’ digital catalogue (SOLO). Since 2010 this material is being catalogued at box level and it is hoped that the project will be completed in 2013. The Library holds a large collection of US doctoral theses, mostly from the 1970s and 1980s on microfilm.

Languages

The LAC Library purchases material in English, Spanish and Portuguese. On occasion it also purchases significant works in other languages, if a work is only available in that language.

Bodleian Libraries’ Collection Management

Readers of this document are referred to the Bodleian Libraries’ Collection Management Policy. The LAC Library’s policies will be informed by this policy and any future amendments.
2. Teaching collections for Latin American Studies

Text books

The Bodleian Latin American Centre Library purchases all texts cited on reading lists provided by the Latin American Centre. General items in support of teaching and learning are also provided.

Journal articles

The Library will house Latin American Studies journals regularly cited on departmental reading lists. Journal articles not available in Oxford will be obtained through inter-library loan and held at the Bodleian Library. For the convenience of readers, the Library will also provide photocopies of journal articles cited on core reading lists that are not available in the LAC Library, the Social Science Library, the Bodleian Library or online (subject to copyright provisions).

Levels of provision

Student numbers, the nature of the item (core reading or background text), price, and the availability of the text in Oxford, are all taken into account when placing new book orders. At a minimum the LAC Library provides two copies (on short loan) of every core text cited on a supported reading list.

The availability of reading list texts is maximised through the provision of confined copies, short loan periods and a reservations system. Integrated Library System reports are used to monitor and respond to use of the teaching collections, and new accessions and lists of heavily-used texts are emailed to College Librarians to encourage purchasing of additional copies.

3. Research collections

Research books

The Library welcomes all suggestions for monograph purchases from members of the department.

As mentioned in “1. Overview” above, the Latin American subject consultant, in consultation with the Latin American Centre fellows, also orders LAS books for the Bodleian Library’s Latin American Research Collections.

In the first instance, the Bodleian Library aims to collect material in support of the research of graduate students, postgraduate researchers and the local research community, as well as ensuring good provision across a wide range of topics to meet future research needs.
The majority of material is acquired from suppliers in the country of publication and in the original language (Spanish or Portuguese).

**Journals**

The Library will house key journals (i.e., highly cited journals and those relating to the specific interests of the department) in Latin American Studies research areas. The Library welcomes requests for specific titles not currently subscribed to and is committed to expanding online coverage of LAS journals as funds permit.

The Bodleian Library subscribes to over 70 journals covering Latin American Studies. Electronic access is considered an increasingly high priority, and is provided if there is sufficient access and funding. The subject consultants also monitor the availability of free e-journals, and these are added to OxLIP+ where appropriate. For further details on Latin American research collections in the Bodleian please refer to the Latin American History Collection Policy—follow link to **Latin American History Subject Guide** and click on “Collection policy document” (PDF).

**4. Special Collections**

The Bodleian Latin American Centre Library has a number of special collections, including Colin Clarke’s Oaxaca Collection (see below) and its Institution and Private Collection Boxes, such as the Bevan Collection and material on CEDES and CELA. It also has a substantial collection of Grey Literature, as mentioned in “1. Overview” above.

In addition, the Library received a significant collection of documents relating to Colombian economic history which was generously donated by Rosemary Thorp. The material is mostly twentieth century and covers a wide range of subjects such as coffee, transport and finance.

*Colin Clarke’s Oaxaca Collection*

Colin Clarke, Emeritus Professor of Geography at Oxford University and an Emeritus Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford, gave his Mexican and Central American collection to the Library. At the core of this donation is a specialist collection on the Mexican state of Oaxaca, dealing with its geography, history, demography, economic development, anthropology and archaeology.

This collection, purchased in Mexico and the UK, was put together between 1976 and 2000, when Oxford University Press published Professor Clarke’s book *Class, Ethnicity and Community in Southern Mexico: Oaxaca’s Peasantry*. The collection contains more than 500 items, including books, journal offprints, bibliographies, gazetteers, typescripts and census materials. The census materials run from before the Mexican Revolution until 1990, and focus on population (though some agricultural, commercial and industrial data are included).
For further details on Latin American special collections in the Bodleian please refer to the Latin American History Collection Policy—follow link to [Latin American History Subject Guide](#) and click on “Collection policy document” (PDF).

5. **Subject coverage of selected purchased material**

In addition to the legal deposit intake and general works, the Bodleian Latin American Centre Library and Bodleian Library will purchase non-deposited material in the following specific subjects (in all cases the term “Latin America” is deemed to include Central America and the Caribbean)—examples of key topics also shown:

- **Latin American Politics**
  - Presidentialism and coalitional government
  - Transitions to democracy
  - Elections
  - Parties and congresses
  - Media and public opinion
  - State corporatism
  - Politics of federalism

- **Latin American Economics**
  - Inequality and welfare
  - Economic development
  - Market economics
  - Globalisation
  - Economic institutions
  - Income distribution and redistribution
  - Comparative economic history
  - Neoliberalism

- **Modern history of Latin America** (see also Latin American History Collection Policy—follow link to [Latin American History Subject Guide](#) and click on “Collection policy document” (PDF))
  - History of democratisation
  - Revolution and independence
  - Nation building and the state
  - Republicanism
  - Nationalism
  - Democracy
  - *Caudillo*
  - Liberalism

- **Latin American Social Sciences**
  - Transitional justice and human rights
  - Sociology and sociological research
  - Development
  - Social and economic inequality
  - Poverty
6. Appendix

As indicated in “1. Overview” above, resources for the study of Latin America are held in a number of different locations across Oxford:

- **Balfour Library** (Pitt-Rivers/anthropology and museum ethnology: undergraduate and postgraduate; limited borrowing)
- **Bodleian Library** (history, literature, politics, economics, social sciences, general: undergraduate and postgraduate)
- **Bodleian Latin American Centre Library** (history, politics, economics, development: undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and research)
- **Bodleian Law Library** (law: undergraduate and postgraduate; reference only)
- **Bodleian Social Sciences Library** (politics, economics, social sciences: undergraduate and postgraduate)
- **History Faculty Library** (history: undergraduate teaching)
- [Oxford Department of International Development Library—QEH (economics, population, regional planning: postgraduate). Now absorbed by Bodleian Social Sciences Library—see above]
- **Radcliffe Science Library** (economic development, urban studies, settlement, climate and weather: undergraduate and postgraduate)
- **Bodleian Library of Commonwealth and African Studies at Rhodes House** (colonialism, slavery, Commonwealth e.g. Belize, Caribbean: research; reference only)
- **Taylor Institution Library** (history, culture, literature, philosophy/intellectuals: undergraduate and research)
- **Tylor Library** (social and cultural anthropology: undergraduate and postgraduate; limited borrowing)
- **Vere Harmsworth Library** (US history, foreign relations: undergraduate and research)

Frank Egerton, Joanne Edwards, August 2011 (updated September 2015).