Collection Policy for General Linguistics

1. Overview
General coverage of subject in OULS

Oxford’s academic activity includes a wide range of linguistic studies and these are supported to a greater or lesser extent by a large number of libraries within the university. The linguistics budget covers general linguistics, not related to an individual language or language family. (e.g. Romance linguistics or Spanish Linguistics). The subject area does include small languages on description level in so far these aren’t covered by any other language area within OULS (e.g. Oceanic or Australian languages).

There are substantial general linguistics collections in the Bodleian (research), the Taylor Institution Library (research, 6000 volumes) and the Modern Languages Faculty Library (teaching, 2000 volumes). The linguistics budget covers each of these collections. Other collections, not covered by the linguistics budget include:

- Experimental Psychology Library: Child language acquisition and psycholinguistics (teaching collection),
- Radcliffe Science Library receives all the Bodleian’s publications in mathematical and computational linguistics, psycholinguistics, the physiological aspects of phonetics, and neurolinguistics (The Cairns Library also has a small holding in the latter field). (research)
- Philosophy Library: Language philosophy (research/teaching)
- Indian Institute Library: linguistics of South Asian languages
- English and general linguistics in the English Faculty Library (teaching)
- English Faculty Library: collects English linguistics with emphasis on the history of the English language and covers some general linguistics to the exclusion of phonetics and language acquisition.
- Department of Educational Studies: collects material on language teaching and has a modest collection on second-language acquisition, but in this field doesn’t attempt to compete with the stronger holdings at Reading University. It receives the six major journals of the Association for Language Teaching.\(^1\)

OLIS is the online catalogue which lists most books and journals in the OULS teaching, learning and research collections.

Legal deposit

Legal deposit material is mainly kept in the Bodleian. The RSL receives all the Bodleian’s deposited publications on mathematical and computational linguistics, psycholinguistics, the physiological aspects of phonetics, and neurolinguistics. The LD collection is of considerable importance to the subject, since teaching as well as research level material is often published in Britain.

Electronic resources

‘Linguistics Abstracts Online’, ‘Linguistics and Language Behavior Abstracts’ and ‘Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics’ are the most important specific e-resources for linguistics available on OxLIP+ (interface for electronic resources in Oxford). In addition, MLA Bibliography as a more general bibliographical resource is useful for linguists. About 20 subscription journals covered by the linguistics budget are available

\(^1\) As discussed in 1999. Since then, Reading University has merged its applied linguistics department with the linguistics department

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electronically through Oxford University e-Journals (interface for electronic journals in Oxford).

Notes about particular formats or collections
N/A

Languages
The collections are mainly in English. Research material in other languages is equally considered for selection.

2. Teaching collections
Teaching collections are held in the Modern Languages Faculty Library, English Faculty Library, Experimental Psychology Library, Hooke Library. Of these, the MLFL collection is covered by the linguistics budget.
Text books – apart from reading list items, text books mainly of introductory nature are bought for MLFL.
Journal articles – not provided separately
Levels of provision in MLFL:
   All reading list items of the reading lists of modern languages and linguistics are provided in single or multiple copies in the MLFL, even if this means duplicating what is available in the Bodleian.

3. Research collections
Research collections are held in the Taylorian and in the Bodleian. As a policy, titles aren’t duplicated, although duplication does occur through donations.
Research books – the Bodleian contains legal deposit items, monograph serials and books on small languages not covered elsewhere. Other research material is purchased for the Taylorian.
Monograph serials / standing-orders – held in the Bodleian
Journals – held in the Bodleian and in the Taylorian. Journals have been de-duplicated if access was available electronically.

4. Special Collections
The Taylorian holds a special collection of linguistic atlases.

5. Subject coverage of selected purchased material
The Bodleian covers the legal deposit intake and collects general linguistics mainly in monographic series to the exclusion of
   • Language teaching and learning, including TEFL, applied linguistics, second language acquisition (collected by the Educational Studies Library)
   • Studies specific to those European languages and language groups for which the Taylor Institution Library is primarily responsible
   • Mathematical and computational linguistics
   • Psycholinguistics
   • Neurolinguistics
   • The Bodleian doesn’t seek to duplicate Taylorian holdings
   • The Bodleian specifically collects descriptive linguistics concerning small languages not covered elsewhere in OULS (including Oceanic, African and Native American languages)
   • Hungarian language studies are historically collected by the Bodleian

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- Norse is collected by the Bodleian and the English Faculty Library.

The Taylor Institution Library doesn’t seek to duplicate Bodleian intake. It actively collects non-deposited material in the following specific subjects insofar as they are not related to an individual language. Linguistics of individual languages is covered by the respective language budgets.

- general linguistics
- history of linguistics
- grammar
- morphology
- syntax
- semantics
- lexicography
- sociolinguistics
- multilingualism
- creoles
- onomastics
- computational linguistics
- philosophy of language
- phonetics
- phonology
- historical linguistics
- comparative linguistics
- Indo-European languages
- artificial languages
- sign language

Generally excluded:
- applied linguistics
- semiotics

The Modern Languages Faculty Library covers general linguistics on a teaching and introductory level, mainly based on reading lists. Reading list items may be duplicated.

6. Name of subject consultant(s) responsible for collections
Dr. Johanneke Sytsema
11th January 2006

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