

Executive Summary
Law Collection Assessment
Submitted by Hanrong Wang
December 2023

INTRODUCTION

The Law collection is adequate to support the courses taught in numerous bachelor's, master's, and doctorate programs. Complete conspectus sheets and checklists are available upon request for a more detailed collection examination.

HOLDINGS

The Law collection contains **13,256** titles in the **K** call number range, including 10,568 e-books. Total monograph expenditures for Law (K call number ranges) from FY 2017-2018 to FY 2022-2023 were **\$84,722.78** with 761 new titles added. These newer additions comprise 5.74% of the current Law collection.

The following numbers represent a snapshot of the collection as titles are continually being added and withdrawn for collection maintenance and growth. These numbers do not represent additional titles available through e-book databases.

Classification	Divisions and Categories	Library Holdings
K	Law	13,256
K1-7720	Law in general. Comparative and Uniform Law. Jurisprudence	1,116
KB	Religious law in general	37
KD	Law of the United Kingdom and Ireland	478
KDZ	America. North America	9
KE	Law of Canada	24
KF	Law of the United States	11,249
KG	Latin America (General)	4
KH	South America (General)	1
KJ-KKZ	Europe	107
KL-KW	Asia and Eurasia, Africa, the Pacific Area, and Antarctica	144
KZ	Law of nations	87
E-books	All divisions and categories	10,568
Total		23,824

Monograph Expenditures for Law (Including Political Science)

Fiscal Year	Amount
2022 - 2023	\$14,910.49
2021 - 2022	\$10,417.88
2020 - 2021	\$13,609.40
2019 - 2020	\$13,694.52
2018 - 2019	\$15,891.57
2017 - 2018	\$16,198.92
Total	\$84,722.78

PERIODICALS AND SERIALS

The Library has access to full-text journals available throughout the Library databases. There are over 2,900 journals available electronically in Law, which can be found in EBSCO's Publication Finder at <http://bit.ly/2zO6DjD> and via the Library's database subscription --- [Westlaw](#). The Serials expenditures in Law (including Political Science) for print and electronic subscriptions and standing orders were **\$58,355.85**, from 2017 to 2023 (see table below).

Serial Expenditures for Law (Including Political Science) *

FISCAL YEAR	Total
2022 - 2023	\$8,154.48
2021 - 2022	\$8,222.19
2020 - 2021	\$8,844.96
2019 - 2020	\$10,536.76
2018 - 2019	\$12,937.24
2017 - 2018	\$9,660.22
Total	\$58,355.85

*Includes print and electronic subscriptions and standing orders; does not include aggregated multi-subject databases.

Expenditures for serials have migrated away from the individual subscription model to the aggregator database model. Dollar amounts spent on aggregator databases cannot be subdivided into subject categories. The dollar amount spent for aggregated databases for 2021/22 is \$335,683.05.

DEFINED ACCESS TO ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Defined access points users to resources through menu options on the Library's homepage by linking the user to quality, highly relevant, electronic resources. Because the Library provides access to electronic journals, documents, e-books, and video databases along with integrated quality websites that encompass the area of Law, the Library's electronic collection in this subject is adequate to support the curriculum.

A complete list of all of the Library's databases can be found in the A to Z Database Listing at <http://libguides.jsu.edu/az.php>. The A to Z List also subdivides databases by subject, providing a list of all Law-related databases at <https://libguides.jsu.edu/az.php?s=26267&p=1>. Additionally, the Law guide <https://libguides.jsu.edu/law>, which is maintained by the subject specialist, provides a list of and access to the resources specifically for this subject.

Complete details are available in the full assessment, which is available upon request or at <http://bit.ly/2fyeMMU>.

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The Law collection is adequate to support the courses taught in numerous bachelor's, master's, and doctorate programs. This collection is central to the University curriculum since it directly supports studies in Applied Engineering, Business, Communication, Criminal Justice, Education, Emergency Management, Environmental Sciences, Family and Consumer Sciences, History, Kinesiology, Nursing, Political Sciences, Pre-Law, Social Work, etc. Complete conspectus sheets are available for a more detailed examination of the collection.

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TITLES ADDED/TITLES PUBLISHED

Below is a comparison of the number of book titles added to the Houston Cole Library collection versus those made available for sale each fiscal year through GOBI.

Monographs Added Versus Published Comparison

Fiscal Year	Added to Collections K	New Title Reports: All Publishers**	Percentage
Year 2022 - 2023	105	3,018	3.5%
Year 2021 - 2022	105	3,260	3.2%
Year 2020 - 2021	99	2,678	3.7%
Year 2019 - 2020	121	3,312	3.7%
Year 2018 - 2019	172	3,268	5.3%
Year 2017 - 2018	159	3,302	4.8%
Total	761	18,838	4.0%

**GOBI New Titles Report

https://www.gobi3.com/StaticContent/GOBIContent/YBP/Private/Help/Pages/newtitlereport_us.html

CHECKLIST SUMMARIES

Bibliographies including *Choice's* Outstanding Academic Titles (OATs) and *Resources for College Libraries* were used to measure the quality of the Library's collection. In checking the bibliographies against the Library's catalog, the following percentages were revealed in the subject area of Law.

OATs 2017- 2022			
Year	Collected	Listed	Percent Held
2022	7	7	100.0%
2021	9	10	90.0%
2020	6	10	60.0%
2019	4	6	66.7%
2018	4	5	80.0%
2017	2	2	100.0%
Total	32	40	80.0%

Resources for College Libraries Titles 2017-2023			
Subject: Law (LC Class: K)	Collected	Listed	Percentage Held
Total	119	220	54.1%

WITHDRAWALS

As the currency of information is important in the major areas of the Law collection, older books are withdrawn on a regular basis or as newer editions supersede them, and new books are ordered to fill gaps as curriculum requirements change. The table below shows withdrawals from the K classifications.

Fiscal Year	K Titles Withdrawn
2022-2023	14
2021-2022	8
2020-2021	22
2019-2020	341
2018-2019	599
2017-2018	255
Total	1,239

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The following indexes and bibliographies were checked against the Library's holdings for serial titles pertaining to Law, revealing the corresponding percentages quantitatively and qualitatively:

Titles	Collected	Listed	Percent Held
<i>Magazines for Libraries</i> , 2019 ed.	25	27	92.6%
<i>W & L Law Journal Rankings: All Subjects, United States, English, Refereed, Top 100</i> (https://managementtools4.wlu.edu/LawJournals/)	86	100	86.0%
Total	111	129	87.4%

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Through partnerships, such as the one with the Alabama Virtual Library (AVL), the Library is able to obtain more content. Resources provided to the Library by the AVL are designated with the AVL icon.

There is also a growing amount of content published via Open Access (OA) publishing and/or under the Creative Commons (CC) Attribution License. Anyone is allowed to download, use, reuse, distribute, or even modify the content as long as the original author and source are cited. More information can be found at <https://libguides.jsu.edu/oer>.

SUMMARY

Strengths:

Total holdings, conspectus evaluation, and checklist comparisons indicate the overall Law collection is adequate to support the curriculum. Of note on the conspectus worksheets are the holdings in the subject areas of "Law in general. Comparative and Uniform Law. Jurisprudence" (K1-7720), "Law of the United Kingdom and Ireland" (KD), and "Law of the United States" (KF) are adequate.

Hundreds of new titles were added under sub-categories KF for curriculum support since the last assessment in 2017. The following sub-categories are strong:

- Congressional documents (KF12-49),
- Statutes and administrative regulations (KF50-90),
- Law reports and related materials (KF101-153),
- Criminal trials (KF219-224),
- Civil trials (KF226-228),
- Legal research. Legal bibliography (KF 240-247),
- Legal education (KF261-292),
- The legal profession (KF297-334.2),
- Persons (KF465-553),
- Contracts (KF801-1241),
- Torts (KF 1246-1327),
- Regulations of industry, trade, and commerce (KF 1600-2940),
- Intellectual property (KF 3195-3198),
- Social legislation (KF 3195-3198),
- Food. Drugs. Cosmetics (KF 3861-3896),

- Education (KF4101-4330),
- Constitutional law (KF 4501-5130),
- Courts. Procedure (KF 8700-9075),
- Criminal law (KF 9201-9461),
- Criminal procedure (KF9601-9760),
- Juvenile criminal law and procedure (KF9771-9827),
- Law of the states (KFA-KFW),
- Alabama (KFA1-599).

The number of eBook titles in the K call number range increased dramatically with the addition of thousands of titles since the last assessment.

A review of the journal holdings reveals that the Law collection is more than adequate to support the curriculum with a high quality.

Subscriptions to law-related databases in the Library, such as Westlaw, LegalTrac, Gale Legal Forms, govinfo, and CQ Press Library, significantly improve access to valuable resources.

Weaknesses:

While no specific weak areas were specified in the Conspectus, the collection for the following sub-categories should be kept up-to-date:

- Public health. Sanitation (KF 3775-3816)
- Medical legislation (KF3821-3838)
- Public safety (KF3942-3977)

It is worth noting that there are several sections within the collection characterized by single-digit holdings. While these areas are not explicitly labeled as out of scope in the conspectus, they are not identified as weaknesses either. This distinction is important, as these specific segments of the collection do not primarily serve as curriculum support.

Recommendations:

The growth rate of the Law collection should be maintained to continue providing support for curriculum and research support in the bachelor's, master's, and doctorate programs at JSU. The monograph collection should be generally increased, based on budget, with a strong focus on core and outstanding titles. The substantial periodical collection accessible through databases should be preserved and adequately maintained. Furthermore, given the FDsys retirement and transition to GovInfo, a comprehensive study is required to assess its resources and availability. A significant amount of time will be allocated to the evaluation of both the onsite print version and

its corresponding electronic counterpart for the purpose of updating, linking, or withdrawing, in order to meet local requests effectively.