

**Executive Summary**  
**Political Science & Public Administration Collection Assessment**

Submitted by Kim Westbrook

April 9, 2021

**INTRODUCTION**

The Political Science & Public Administration collection is adequate to support the courses taught in the bachelor's and master's program. Complete conspectus sheets and checklists are available upon request for a more detailed examination of the collection.

**HOLDINGS**

The Political Science & Public Administration collection contains **36,870** titles in the J – K call number ranges, including **13,105** e-books. Total monograph expenditures for Political Science & Public Administration from FY 2014/15 to FY 2019/20 were **\$100,368.57** with 1,953 new titles added. These newer additions comprise 5.3% of the current Political Science & Public Administration collection.

These numbers represent a snapshot of the collection as titles are continually being added and withdrawn for collection maintenance and growth.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.

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Subject Area</b>	<b>Library Holdings</b>
J	Official Documents	299
JA	Political Science (General)	1,232
JC	Political Theory	2,724
JF	Public Administration (General)	1,173
JK	Pub Admin & Politics – US	9,395
JL	Pub Admin & Politics – Canada & Latin America	326
JN	Pub Admin & Politics – Europe	1,544
JQ	Pub Admin & Politics – Asia, Africa, Australia, Pacific Area	848
JS	Local & Municipal Government	839
JV	Colonies & Colonization Emigration & Immigration Internal Migration	828
JX (Closed and Weeded, See KZ)	International Law	3,061
JZ	International Relations	822
K-KZA	Law	13,779
<b>Total</b>		<b>36,870</b>

### **Monograph Expenditures for Political Science & Public Administration**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2014/15	\$22,251.59
2015/16	\$17,754.00
2016/17	\$14,577.97
2017/18	\$16,198.92
2018/19	\$15,891.57
2019/20	\$13,694.52
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$100,368.57</b>

### **PERIODICALS AND SERIALS**

The Library has access to full-text journals available throughout the Library databases. There are over 61,063 journals available electronically through database subscriptions, which can be found in EBSCO's Publication Finder at <http://bit.ly/2zO6DiD>. The Serials expenditures in Political Science & Public Administration for both print and electronic subscriptions and standing orders average **\$10,644.92** from FY 2014/15 to FY 2019/20 (see table below.)

### **Serial Expenditures for Political Science & Public Administration**

<b>FISCAL YEAR</b>	<b>Total</b>
2014/15	\$9,209.73
2015/16	\$10,861.03
2016/17	\$10,664.55
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<b>Total</b>	<b>\$63,869.53</b>

Expenditures for serials have migrated away from the individual subscription model to the aggregator database model. Dollar amounts spent on aggregator databases cannot be sub-divided into subject categories. In 2019/20, aggregator databases totaled \$325,479.26, which came from the general fund.

### **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 Political

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

## Political Science & Public Administration Collection Assessment

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### INTRODUCTION

The Political Science & Public Administration collection is central to the University curriculum, since it supports study for degree programs in Political Science & Public Administration at both the Bachelor's level and at the Master's level, offered by the School of Human Services and Social Sciences. The collection also supports minors in Political Science, Public Administration, and International Studies, along with the degree in their major field. The Political Science & Public Administration collection is adequate to support the courses taught in the Bachelor's and Master's programs. Complete conspectus sheets and checklists are available upon request for a more detailed examination of the collection.

### HOLDINGS

The Political Science & Public Administration collection contains **36,870** titles in the J – K call number ranges, including **13,105** e-books. Total monograph expenditures for Political Science & Public Administration from FY 2014/15 to FY 2019/20 were **\$100,368.57** with 1,953 new titles added. These newer additions comprise 5.3% of the current Political Science & Public Administration collection.

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**SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPORT**

Political Science & Public Administration are interdisciplinary subjects that extend beyond the boundaries of the discipline. Supplemental support for research includes a wide range of subject areas, including the holdings in the related subject collections of History, Geography, Commerce and Business Administration, Sociology, Social Work, Emergency Management, Criminal Justice, Education, Military Science, and Naval Science.

**Number of titles held for support subdivisions outside the Political Science & Public Administration Classifications:**

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Totals</b>
E1- F9999	History	65,403
G1-GF900	Geography	6,904
HF1-HF9999	Commerce and Business Administration	10,303
HM1-HM1281	Sociology	4,755
HV1-HV5840	Social Work	7,433
HV6000-HV9960	Criminal Justice	15,700
L1-LJ9999	Education	38,849
U1-U9999	Military Science	1,657
V1-VM9999	Naval Science	962
<b>Total</b>		<b>151,966</b>

## **PEER INSTITUTION COMPARISON**

### **Political Science Comparison**

Below is a table comparing Library holdings of Universities of comparable student population size who offer a Political Science Undergraduate degree. Jacksonville State University ranks first in the number of book titles held.

Rank	University Name	Library OCLC Code	Number of book titles by Subject: "Political Science"
1	Jacksonville State University	AJB	4,715
2	Sonoma State University	CSO	1,880
3	Morehead State University	KMM	1,404
4	Slippery Rock University	SRS	1,197
5	Armstrong Atlantic State University	GAC	917
6	Pittsburgh State University	KFP	761
7	McNeese State University	LHA	544

### **Public Administration Comparison**

Below is a table comparing Library Holdings of Universities of comparable student population size who offer NASPAA accredited Public Administration Masters' Degree programs. Jacksonville State University compares well.

Rank	University Name	Library OCLC Code	Number of book titles by Subject: "Public Administration"
1	Tennessee State University	TSU	750
2	Jacksonville State University	AJB	601
3	University of South Dakota	USD	494
4	SUNY College at Brockport	XBM	471
5	Jackson State University	MJU	315
6	Indiana University South Bend	I3U	283
7	Morehead State University	KMM	269

### **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**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Added to Collections J-K</b>	<b>YBP New Titles Report<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Percentage</b>
FY 2014-15	J – 258	J – 1,890	14%
	K – 154	K – 2,741	6%
FY 2015-16	J – 200	J – 1,939	10%
	K – 144	K – 3,118	5%
FY 2016-17	J – 151	J – 1,939	8%
	K – 193	K – 3,302	6%
FY 2017-18	J – 98	J – 2,087	5%
	K – 158	K – 3,268	5%
FY 2018-19	J – 193	J – 1,996	10%
	K – 172	K – 3,312	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,721</b>	<b>25,592</b>	<b>7%</b>

### **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. The Arthur Ross Book Awards were also selected as a measure of quality in the area of foreign policy and international relations. In checking the bibliographies against the Library's catalog, the following percentages were revealed in the subject area of Political Science & Public Administration.

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<sup>1</sup> GOBI New Titles Report  
([https://www.gobi3.com/StaticContent/GOBIContent/YBP/Private/Help/Pages/newtitlereport\\_us.html](https://www.gobi3.com/StaticContent/GOBIContent/YBP/Private/Help/Pages/newtitlereport_us.html))

<b>Choice's Outstanding Academic Titles (OATs) 1990 - 2020</b>			
<b>LC CLASS</b>	<b>Collected</b>	<b>Listed</b>	<b>Percent Held</b>
J1-JZ9999	372	455	82%

<b>Resources for College Libraries 2015 - 2020</b>			
<b>LC CLASS</b>	<b>Collected</b>	<b>Listed</b>	<b>Percentage Held</b>
JC1-JC9999	51	122	42%
JF1-JF9999	41	56	73%
JZ5-JZ6530	46	123	37%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>46%</b>

<b>Arthur Ross Book Award 2005 – 2020</b>			
<b>LC CLASS</b>	<b>Collected</b>	<b>Listed</b>	<b>Percentage Held</b>
J1-JZ9999	31	45	69%

### **WITHDRAWALS**

As currency of information is very important in the Political Science & Public Administration 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 J – K classifications.

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>J Titles Withdrawn</b>	<b>K Titles Withdrawn</b>
FY 2014/15	22	254
FY 2015/16	313	275
FY 2016/17	36	302
FY 2017/18	22	255
FY 2018/19	291	599
FY 2019/20	12	341
<b>Total</b>	<b>696</b>	<b>2,026</b>

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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.

## **SUMMARY**

### **Strengths:**

Total holdings, conspectus evaluation, and checklist comparisons indicate the overall Political Science & Public Administration collection is more than adequate to support the curriculum. Of particular note on the conspectus worksheets are the holdings in the subject areas of: Citizenship; Electoral Systems, Immigration & Emigration; International Relations; Law Nations.

A review of the journal holdings reveals that the Political Science & Public Administration collection is adequate to support the curriculum.

### **Weaknesses:**

Total holdings, conspectus evaluations, and checklist comparisons indicate that the weakest areas of the Political Science & Public Administration subject areas are: Collections & General Works – Treatises; Civil Service; Local Government; Municipal Government; Local Government, other than Municipal.

### **Recommendations:**

The growth rate of the Political Science & Public Administration Collection should be maintained in order to continue providing support for the Bachelor's and Master's levels in Political Science & Public Administration. The monograph collection should be generally increased, based on budget, with a strong focus on core and outstanding titles. The periodical collection available via databases is substantial and should be maintained. The weak subject areas (noted above) should also be addressed in future additions to the collection.