

**Executive Summary**  
**Sociology Collection Assessment**  
 Submitted by Kim Westbrook  
 April 1, 2022

**INTRODUCTION**

The Sociology collection is adequate to support the sociology courses taught in the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science programs. Complete conspectus sheets and checklists are available upon request for a more detailed examination of the collection.

**HOLDINGS**

The Sociology collection contains **36,745** titles in the H1 – H99, HM-HV5840, and HX call number ranges, including 12,248 e-books. Total monograph expenditures for Sociology from FY 2016/17 to FY 2020/21 were **\$122,360.49** with 1,895 new titles added. These newer additions comprise 5% of the current Sociology 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These numbers represent a snapshot of the collection as titles are continually being added and withdrawn for collection maintenance and growth.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>
H1-H99	Social Science	4,737
HM	Sociology	4,808
HN	Social History and Conditions	3,518
HQ	Family. Marriage. Women	10,602
HS	Societies	225
HT	Communities. Classes. Races	3,575
HV1-HV5840	Social Pathology. Social and Public Welfare	7,477
HX	Socialism. Communism. Anarchism.	1,803
<b>Total</b>		<b>36,745</b>

**Monograph Expenditures for Sociology**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2016 – 2017	\$26,807.86
2017 – 2018	\$28,836.11
2018 – 2019	\$23,844.83
2019 – 2020	\$14,944.86
2020 – 2021	\$27,926.83
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$122,360.49</b>

## **PERIODICALS AND SERIALS**

The Library has access to full-text journals available throughout the Library databases. There are over 60,574 journals available electronically through database subscriptions, which can be found in EBSCO's Publication Finder at <http://bit.ly/2zO6DiD>. The Serials expenditures in Sociology for both print and electronic subscriptions and standing orders average **\$32,701.17** from FY 2016/17 to FY 2020/21 (see table below.)

### **Serial Expenditures for Sociology**

<b>FISCAL YEAR</b>	<b>Total</b>
2016 – 2017	\$32,343.89
2017 – 2018	\$26,352.80
2018 – 2019	\$39,081.58
2019 – 2020	\$30,322.71
2020 – 2021	\$35,404.86
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$163,505.84</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 FY 2020/21, aggregator databases totaled \$310,770.02, 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 Sociology, 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 Sociology related databases at <https://libguides.jsu.edu/az.php?s=26282>. Additionally, the Sociology guide (<https://libguides.jsu.edu/sociology>), 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>.

## Sociology Collection Assessment

Submitted by Kim Westbrooks

December 9, 2021

### INTRODUCTION

The Sociology collection is central to the University curriculum since it supports study for degree programs in Sociology at the Bachelor's level and courses offered by the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. The collection also supports Minors in Criminology, Gerontology, and Sociology, along with the degree in their major field. The Sociology collection is adequate to support the courses taught in the Bachelor's program. Complete conspectus sheets and checklists are available upon request for a more detailed examination of the collection.

### HOLDINGS

The Sociology collection contains **36,745** titles in the H1 – H99, HM-HV5840, and HX call number ranges, including 12,248 e-books. Total monograph expenditures for Sociology from FY 2016/17 to FY 2020/21 were **\$122,360.49** with 1,895 new titles added. These newer additions comprise 5% of the current Sociology collection.

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### **SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPORT**

Sociology is an interdisciplinary subject that extends 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 Biology, Criminal Justice, Education, Ethics, History, Law, Nursing, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Public Administration, and Religion.

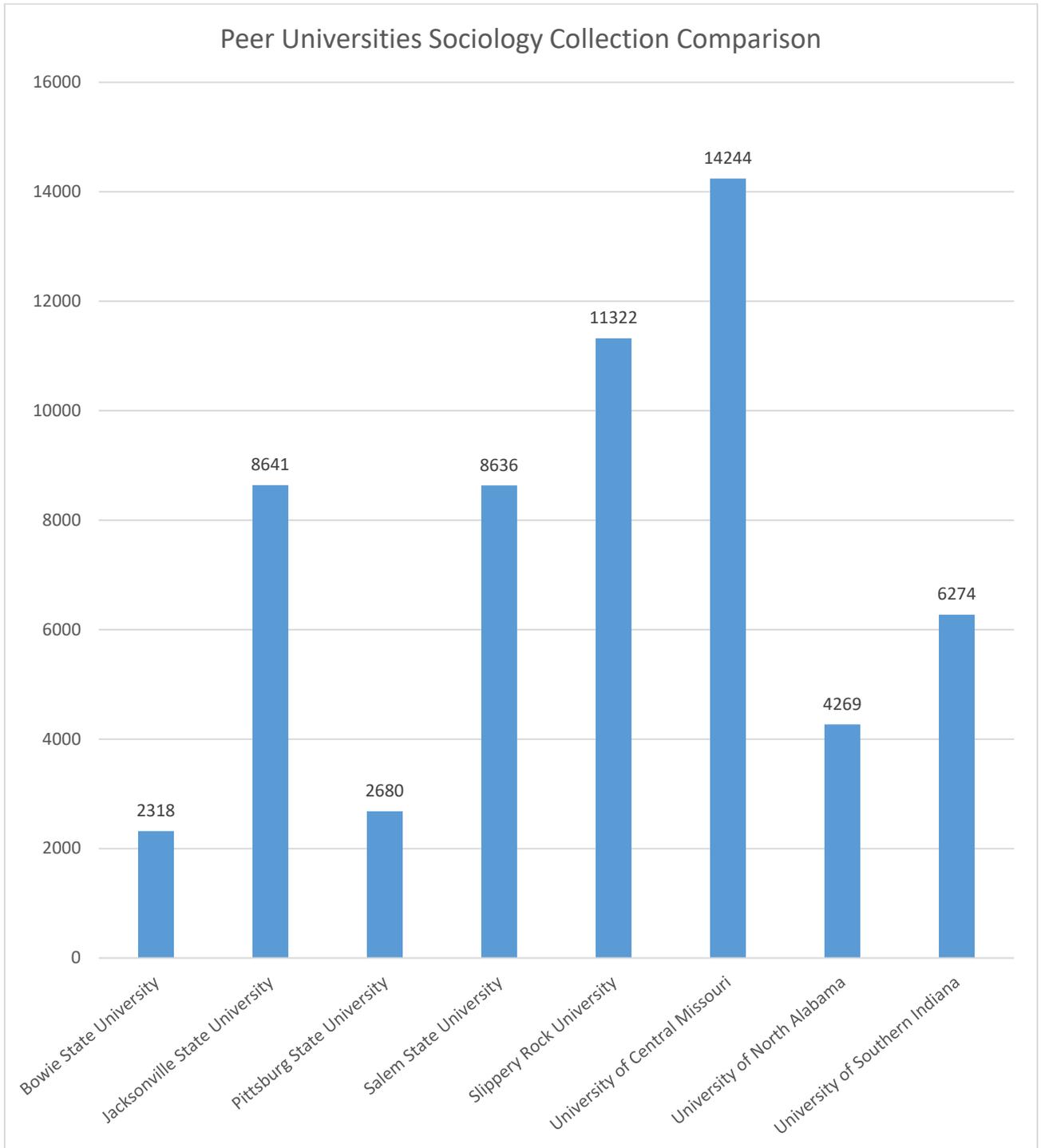
### **Number of titles held for support subdivisions outside the Sociology Classifications:**

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Totals</b>
B, BC, BD	Philosophy	5,414
BF	Psychology	9,984
BJ	Ethics	9,977
BL – BX	Religion	14,754
D – F	History	107,100
HV6001 – HV9960	Criminal Justice	15,782
J	Political Science and Public Administration	23,199
K	Law	13,858
L	Education	38,857
QH301 – QH705.5	Biology	4,403
RT	Nursing	1,371

### **PEER INSTITUTION COMPARISON**

Below is a table comparing library collections of universities similar to Jacksonville State University. Peers were chosen using the Carnegie Classifications “Look Up” feature at <http://carnegieclassifications.iu.edu/lookup/lookup.php>. Those with the same “Basic,” “Enrollment Profile,” “Level,” “Size and Setting,” and “Undergraduate Profile” Carnegie Classifications were chosen, excluding satellite campuses. Sociology collections were examined in the WorldCat database using the keyword search term “sociology” at <https://libguides.jsu.edu/resources/oclcfirstsearchworldcat>.

Jacksonville State University compares well with peer institutions.



### **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 Years</b>	<b>Added to Collections H, HM, HV, HQ, HN, HX</b>	<b>YBP New Titles Report<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Percentage</b>
2019-2021	6	51	12%

### **CHECKLIST SUMMARIES**

Bibliographies including American Sociological Association's Distinguished Scholarly Book Award, *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 Sociology.

<b>American Sociological Association Distinguished Scholarly Book Awards</b>			
<b>Years</b>	<b>Collected</b>	<b>Listed</b>	<b>Percent Held</b>
1986-2020	19	37	51%

<b>Choice's Outstanding Academic Titles 2017-2021</b> Ranges: H-HA, HM-HV6000, HX			
<b>Years</b>	<b>Collected</b>	<b>Listed</b>	<b>Percent Held</b>
2017-2021	67	86	78%

<b>Resources for College Libraries 2017-2021</b>			
<b>LC CLASS</b>	<b>Collected</b>	<b>Listed</b>	<b>Percentage Held</b>
H-HA, HM-HV6000, HX	67	86	78%

### **WITHDRAWALS**

As currency of information is very important in the Sociology 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 H – HA, HM – HV6000, and HX classifications.

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

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Titles Withdrawn H – HA</b>	<b>Titles Withdrawn HM – HV6000, HX</b>	<b>Total Titles Withdrawn</b>
2016 – 2017	2	98	100
2017 – 2018	7	33	40
2018 – 2019	26	137	163
2019 – 2020	120	1,039	1,159
2020 – 2021	0	24	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>1,331</b>	<b>1,486</b>

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

<b>Titles</b>	<b>Collected</b>	<b>Listed</b>	<b>Percent Held</b>
Magazines for Libraries 28 <sup>th</sup> Edition 2019	100	115	87.0%

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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 Sociology collection is more than adequate to support the curriculum. Of particular note on the conspectus worksheets are the holdings in the subject areas of: Theory, Methodology and Social Work, Social & Public Welfare.

A review of the journal holdings reveals that the Sociology collection is adequate to support the curriculum.

### **Weaknesses:**

Total holdings, conspectus evaluations, and checklist comparisons indicate that the weakest areas of the Sociology subject areas are: Social Classes and Societies – Secret, Benevolent, etc.

### **Recommendations:**

The growth rate of the Sociology Collection should be maintained in order to continue providing support for the major and minors in Sociology. 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.