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Guidelines for Foreign Languages

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1. Purpose.

Collections in Foreign Languages support teaching and research consistent with the curriculum at a Doctoral University: Highest Research Activity under the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education with undergraduate programs in the field.

The Foreign Language programs in the VCU School of World Studies – including Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Latin, Spanish, and Russian -- support teaching and research through the undergraduate level. The primary goal of these programs is to prepare students for the international nature of global business, for deeper appreciation of cultural life, for political understanding, and careers in teaching as well as innovative scholarship. The department offers the Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages.

The Department of Foreign Languages also offers courses in Foreign Literature in English Translation and European Culture, as well as classes in Chinese, Italian, Latin, Portuguese, Swahili, Hindi, and Russian. In addition, courses are offered in the Latin American Studies minor, the Mediterranean Studies program, and the Russian Studies program.

2. General Collection Guidelines.

A. Language.

Language, literature, and critical works are acquired to represent the diversity of world literature in the original language



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or English translation. English-language translations of literary works are acquired on a regular basis to support the courses on literature in translation and comparative literature.

B. Chronology.

No restrictions.

C. Geography.

No restrictions.

D. Publication Date.

No restrictions, except for rare materials.

E. Treatment of Subject.

Literary biography, criticism, and history are purchased, as are studies of literary technique and cultural or historical context of literary production.

F. Types of Materials and Formats.

In addition to print monographs and digital serial publications, dictionaries, encyclopedias, and other reference works, as well as reports or proceedings of literary associations, conferences, or congresses are collected. Digital scholarship is increasingly important for scholarship in world languages and literatures.

3. Subjects and Collecting Levels.

Resources for Foreign Languages are collected at an instructional support level (3).