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Guidelines for Education

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1. Purpose.

Collections in education support a research agenda consistent with the research enterprise at a Doctoral University: Highest Research Activity under the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education with doctoral and master's degree programs in the field, along with a five-year extended teacher preparation program designed to allow students to earn a bachelor's degree and a Master of Teaching degree at the same time.

The collection supports two doctoral programs: an Ed.D. in leadership and a Ph.D. in education with nine concentrations. The primary purpose of the Ed.D. in leadership is to enable students to succeed in organizational leadership positions. The Ph.D. in education prepares students for leadership in school administration, curriculum and instruction, research and evaluation, special education and disabilities, and private and public organizations and agencies. The nine concentrations offered are art education; counselor education and supervision; curriculum, culture, and change; educational leadership; educational psychology; research and evaluation; special education and disability leadership; sport leadership; and urban services leadership.

The collection supports seven M.Ed. programs and an M.T. program with nine concentrations and a dual-degree M.Ed./MBA program in sport leadership. The M.Ed. programs are in adult learning; counselor education; curriculum and



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instruction; educational leadership; reading; special education; and sport leadership. The M.T. concentrations are biology education; chemistry education; early and elementary education; earth science education; English education; history/social studies education; mathematics education; and physics education.

2. General Collection Guidelines.

A. Language.

English is the primary language of the collection. Works written in other languages are purchased ordinarily in English translation. However, designated children's literature is purchased in the original language.

B. Chronology.

The majority of the materials collected pertain to the twentieth century, particularly the present decade, since the chief emphasis is on current practice and theory, and also on those aspects of past practice and theory that are still influential at the present time. Writings of major educational theorists and reformers of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries are more selectively collected.

C. Geography.

Emphasis in the collection is on the U.S. school system and American educational practice and theory. Works on broader topics in British education, such as general history, theory and practice, and broader social aspects are collected. Specialized topics such as histories of particular public schools and teaching of particular subjects in British schools are not collected. Materials about present practices in other European countries and in Asia are collected selectively.

D. Publication Date.

Emphasis is on current materials. Retrospective purchasing is selective.

E. Treatment of Subject.

Scholarly works in the field are the principal staple of the general collection. The history of western educational development is collected generally. Biographies of educational leaders are collected selectively. Works on the legal aspects of education are extremely useful. Various medical treatments are important in the physiological aspects of educational psychology and physical and health education, as well as in special education. Research methodologies are a strong collection interest.

Lower undergraduate textbooks on education ordinarily are not purchased for the general collection. Some upper undergraduate and graduate texts are purchased selectively as sources of information and as examples of teacher training materials, but preference is given to scholarly works not intended as texts. Activity guides, lesson plans published in monograph format, curriculum guides, and specialized texts are selectively collected.

Children's and young adult literature serves as a resource for students taking classes on reading. Popular treatments are acquired selectively and related primarily to education in the social context.

Works on teaching techniques written by and for practicing teachers are acquired selectively.



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F. Types of Materials and Formats.

Subscriptions to the major trade and professional journals are crucial, as are series and serials of professional societies, academic institutions, university departments, and quasi-public agencies. The collection includes essential bibliographies, dictionaries, encyclopedias, guides, handbooks, abstracting and indexing services, directories, manuals for the interpretation of diagnostic tests, sources for reviewing tests, conference proceedings, and counseling handbooks. Tests are purchased selectively.

Purchases of dissertations and theses from other institutions is restricted. Reprints are considered if the library does not have original copy or if the library copy is in unusable condition. Other instructional and research formats for the collection may include digital and microform research collections, databases, data sets, software, and media in a variety of formats. VCU Libraries is a partial depository library for U.S. Government Documents.

3. Area Resources.

Students and faculty have access to the Library of Virginia and libraries at Union Theological Seminary, Virginia Union University, and the University of Richmond.

4. Related Subject Policy Statements.

Education faculty and students share interests with these related academic disciplines; psychology, social work, rehabilitation counseling, health administration, child psychiatry, physical therapy, and medicine.

5. Subjects and Collecting Levels.

Education is collected at a research level (4).