

Popular Reading & Audiobooks Collection

Information Access Policy

Clemson University Libraries

Popular Reading Librarian: [P. Draper](#)

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I. Purpose of the Collection: To provide current popular fiction and current general interest non-fiction in print and audio format as well as classic literature in audio format for the personal enjoyment and intellectual enrichment of our patrons.

A. Primary Users

Clemson University students, faculty, and staff

B. Secondary Users

Clemson alumni
Community borrowers

II. General Collection Guidelines

A. Languages

English is the language of collection.

B. Geographical Guidelines

No geographical limitations with regard to subject matter apply.

C. Chronological Guidelines

No chronological limitations with regard to subject matter apply.

D. Date of Publication

Emphasis is on new or very recently published books and audiobooks. Older books may occasionally be purchased or moved into the collection if a recent occurrence makes them of current interest. Audiobooks of "classic" titles, the original publication date of which may be anywhere from ancient times to the twentieth century, are actively purchased.

E. Selection Criteria

- Books – Books are primarily selected from major bestseller lists (for example, the *New York Times*, NPR), winners of major literary awards (for example, Pulitzer Prize, National Book Award) and winners of major genre awards (for example, Edgar, Hugo, Nebula Award). Books judged to be in high-demand based on local or regional setting or connection, popular interest, current controversial status, or contemporary significance are also considered for selection.
- Audiobooks – Criteria are the same as for books with the addition of “classic” literary titles (for example, *Canterbury Tales*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *The Great Gatsby*), contemporary and classic plays recorded by full casts, and collections of lectures by outstanding professors on subjects of general interest (for example, history, science, great religions, literature, music).

F. Formats

- Books – Hardbacks are preferred; paperbacks are purchased only if hardbacks are unavailable. Hardbacks will have mylar-covered book covers.
- Audiobooks – Audiobooks are purchased on compact discs.

G. Excluded Materials

- Research-level materials
- Most juvenile books, with the exception of books which have both adult and juvenile appeal, for example, books by J. K. Rowling, J. R. R. Tolkien, and A. A. Milne
- Faith-based self-help books or any sectarian materials of a proselytizing nature
- Titles written clearly and solely for propagandistic, sensational, or pornographic purposes (Note: a title will not be excluded because of objectionable language or vivid descriptions of sex or violence if the author is dealing realistically with his/her theme.)

III. Primary Subject Classifications, LC Call Numbers

The main portion of the collection falls into PR and PS call numbers (English and American fiction), but no call numbers are excluded.

IV. Access to Information Not On-Site

Clemson University students, faculty, and staff can request materials not owned through the free Pascal Delivers and Interlibrary Loan services.

V. Sources of Selection Information

- Yankee slip plan which identifies hardcover fiction which reaches the top 10 on the *New York Times* bestseller list and books which receive long reviews in the *New York Times Book Review*
- bestseller lists
- book reviews
- patron requests and recommendations; there is a suggestion box in the Popular Reading area and an online suggestion form on the Popular Reading webpage (<http://www.clemson.edu/library/popreading/suggestions.html>)
- publishers' catalogs
- series lists
- circulation activity

VI. Deselection (Weeding) Guidelines

Books are relocated to the main collection based on age or lack of circulation activity. Because of space limitations, the book collection is evaluated at least once a month.

Damaged books and audiobooks in such bad condition that they cannot be repaired will be withdrawn from the collection. Replacement copies may be purchased if financially feasible. Only recently-purchased materials, titles to fill a gap in a series being collected, or “classic” title audiobooks would be replaced.

VII. Evaluation, Assessment, and Planning Tools

- circulation statistics
- series lists
- inventory lists
- Interlibrary Loan activity