

# Public Health Sciences

## Information Access Policy

### Clemson University Libraries

---

Health Sciences Librarian: Jenessa McElfresh

Written by C. Colthorpe, Summer 2011;

Revised by J. McElfresh, Spring 2020

#### I. Purpose

##### a. Objective

Clemson University Libraries' public health sciences collection is developed to support the undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral degrees offered by the Department of Public Health Sciences in the College of Behavioral, Social, and Health Sciences. The collection supports the curricular and research needs of students and instructional and research needs of faculty.

##### b. Curriculum supported

###### i. Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences

###### 1. Concentration: Health Services Administration

The health services administration concentration allows students to develop skills and competencies in health administration/management for entry-level careers or graduate study in this area. This concentration was initiated by the Department of Public Health Sciences in response to emerging trends and changes in health administration, and the increasing desire of students to work in the area of health administration.

###### 2. Concentration: Health Promotion and Behavior

The health promotion and behavior concentration area prepares graduates to assess health problems and develop, implement and evaluate health promotion and behavior programs that address those problems. The health education profession has established standards for approval and accreditation of professional preparation programs.

###### 3. Concentration: Pre-professional Studies in Health

The pre-professional studies in health concentration is designed for students who plan to attend graduate or professional school in one of the health concentrations.

###### ii. Bachelor of Science in Language and International Health (offered jointly with the Dept. of Languages, Clemson University)

The Department of Languages in the College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities and the Department of Public Health Sciences offers a joint Bachelor of Science in languages and international health. Students in this degree program will acquire knowledge in public health theory and practice, including the history and philosophy of public health and medicine; the organization, management and financing of health services; the social and behavioral aspects of health, epidemiology, health evaluation methods and health

communications. Students will also acquire communicative competence in the target language and its culture, literature, health environments and multicultural issues. This program requires the completion of one semester of study abroad.

iii. Undergraduate Certificate: Public Health

The Department of Public Health Sciences is offering an online, nine credit undergraduate-level certificate for undergraduate students enrolled at Clemson University who are not currently majoring in the Health Science (HS) or Language & International Health (L&IH) undergraduate concentrations. The goal of this certificate is to provide basic educational training in core public health concepts and applications for students who intend to apply to graduate programs in public health or desire introductory coursework in public health as preparation for professional schools in health care delivery.

iv. Master of Science in Applied Health Research and Evaluation

The Department of Public Health Sciences offers a (30 credit hours) non-thesis M.S. degree in Applied Health Research and Evaluation (AHRE). The goal of this program is to develop technicians, data analysts, program evaluators, or research associates/coordinators, working in the private and public sectors, with foundational research and evaluation knowledge and skills related to study design, data management, and data analysis. Specifically, graduates will work as integral parts of collaborative research teams who wish to assess the efficacy and effectiveness of programs and interventions, improve the efficiency of health services, and provide data-based evidence to drive informed decision-making and empower positive change in population and healthcare practice.

v. Master of Science in Biomedical Data Science and Informatics (offered jointly with School of Computing, Clemson University)

This interdisciplinary program leverages the broad strength at Clemson spanning computing, engineering, mathematics, biology, public health, and other areas to produce the next generation of data scientists, prepared to manage and analyze big data sources from mobile sensors to genomic and imaging technologies. Graduates will possess the necessary skills for informatics careers in biology, medicine or public health focused on the development of prescriptive analytics from large data sources. The program is designed for students with undergraduate computer science, math, engineering, or biomedical sciences backgrounds who wish to make a contribution to biomedical sciences or individual and societal health.

vi. PhD in Applied Health Research and Evaluation

The Department of Public Health Sciences offers a (64 credit hours) Ph.D. degree in Applied Health Research and Evaluation (AHRE). Graduates will be independent researchers and methodological leaders. The program develops depth and breadth of knowledge in the determinants of health, healthcare systems, research and evaluation design, epidemiology, and quantitative & qualitative methods, making graduates highly competitive for employment in many different work settings.

- vii. PhD in Biomedical Data Science and Informatics (offered jointly with Clemson and Medical University of South Carolina)

The program is a unique collaboration that brings together Clemson’s strengths in computing, engineering, and public health and MUSC’s expertise in biomedical sciences to produce the next generation of data scientists, prepared to manage and analyze big data sources from mobile sensors to genomic and imaging technologies. Graduates will possess the necessary skills for informatics careers in biology, medicine or public health focused on the development of prescriptive analytics from large data sources. This interdisciplinary program is designed for full-time students with undergraduate or graduate computer science, math, engineering, or biomedical sciences backgrounds who wish to make a contribution to biomedical sciences or individual and societal health.

- viii. Graduate Certificate: Clinical and Translational Research

The Department of Public Health Sciences in collaboration with the Department of Mathematical Sciences at Clemson University is now offering a 12 credit, graduate-level certificate in health services research at the University Center of Greenville in Greenville, South Carolina. The goal of this certificate is to enhance research skills of health professionals in all health-related fields. The certificate includes five Clemson courses (12 credits) that will be offered during the academic year at the University Center of Greenville in Greenville, South Carolina.

- c. Primary users

The primary users are undergraduates and graduate students from the College of Behavioral, Social, and Health Sciences who are enrolled in degree programs through the Department of Public Health Sciences. Faculty, staff, and extension agents affiliated with Public Health Sciences are also considered primary users.

- d. Secondary users

Undergraduates not majoring in public health sciences often choose healthcare and medicine-related topics for their English papers. Many medical topics are now “hot news” (*i.e. vaccinations, genetic testing*). Materials are purchased that cover these topics in both a scholarly, academic matter and in laymen’s language for the undergraduate who is not a health sciences major.

Much of the material collected for public health sciences is specific to healthcare and medicine. Materials bought for this department may be used by faculty, students, and staff in many other departments, including in interdisciplinary projects from the Clemson University School of Health Research, and supplemental interdisciplinary titles are purchased to address this need.

Community residents also use the public health sciences collection materials to address their research needs, particularly in seeking consumer and community health information for personal healthcare interests.

## **II. Scope of the Collection**

The collection is housed in Cooper Library and Offsite Storage, with the exception of electronic materials available in a stable online format. Collecting efforts are aimed at maintaining a well-rounded collection, with special strengths in the areas of current research at Clemson University and in areas where degrees are given, but which also provides materials for students in all areas of the Department of Public Health Sciences and which will in the future provide an adequate basic collection as research interests change.

### **a. Format guidelines**

Monographic material will be purchased in print and/or electronic format. Due to the number of public health sciences programs that are online or require online components, the preference for monographic material purchases is electronic format if available, though print will be purchased upon request or if electronic access is not available. Journals, handbooks, manuals, and encyclopedias will be in electronic format, if available. DVDs will be purchased as requested by the faculty.

### **b. Language guidelines**

Primarily English-language materials will be selected. If materials in other languages are collected they must generally contain information not readily available in English, or fit a specific research or program need.

### **c. Geographical guidelines**

No geographical limitations will be used for materials related to public health sciences. Materials dealing with guidelines, medical practice, and the healthcare system will be selected with an emphasis on South Carolina and the United States. Materials dealing with other regions will be purchased to provide support to research and curricular activities.

### **d. Chronological guidelines**

Most books considered for purchase are current; materials published prior to the most recent five years are purchased very selectively or upon request.

### **e. Types of materials excluded**

The following materials will be excluded unless there is an extraordinary need and/or a specific request:

- i. Workbooks
- ii. Computer software
- iii. Rare materials
- iv. Textbooks

## **III. Subject Classifications Collected**

Primary Subject Classifications:

Public Aspects of Medicine

RA 1-1270

Secondary Subject Classifications:

Medicine (General)	R5-920
Pathology	RB 1-214
Internal Medicine	RC 31-1245
Surgery	RD 1-811
Ophthalmology	RE 1-994
Otorhinolaryngology	RF 1-547
Gynecology & Obstetrics	RG 1-991
Pediatrics	RJ 1-570
Dentistry	RK 1-715
Dermatology	RL 1-803
Therapeutics / Pharmacology	RM 1-950
Pharmacy and Materia Medica	RS 1-441
Nursing	RT 1-120
Botanic, Thomsonian, and Eclectic Medicine	RV 1-431
Homeopathy	RX 1-681
Other systems of medicine	RZ 201-999

**IV. Core Public Health Sciences Journals**

Advances in Public Health	International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health
American Journal of Epidemiology	International Journal of Epidemiology
American Journal of Industrial Medicine	International Journal of Medicine and Public Health
American Journal of Preventative Medicine	International Journal of Public Health
American Journal of Public Health	JAMA: Journal of the American Medical Association
Annals of Tropical Medicine and Public Health	Journal of the American Public Health Association
Annual Review of Public Health	Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health
Archives of Public Health	Journal of Environmental and Public Health
BMC Public Health	Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law
BMC Health Services Research	Journal of Infection and Public Health
BMJ Global Health	Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
Bulletin of the World Health Organization	Journal of Preventative Medicine and Public Health
Critical Public Health	Journal of Public Health
Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness	Journal of Public Health Policy
Emerging Infectious Diseases	Journal of Public Mental Health
Environmental Health Perspectives	
Epidemiology	
Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Public Health	
Ethics, Medicine, and Public Health	
Frontiers in Public Health	

Global Public Health  
 Health Affairs  
 Health Care Financing Review  
 Health Expectations  
 Health Policy and Planning  
 Health Services Research  
 Health Services Research and Managerial  
 Epidemiology  
 Inquiry  
 International Journal of Community Medicine  
 and Public Health

Lancet  
 Lancet Global Health  
 Medical Care  
 New England Journal of Medicine  
 Public Health Nutrition  
 Public Health Reviews  
 Social Science and Medicine  
 Social Work and Public Health  
 Statistics in Medicine

**V. Core Public Health Sciences Databases and Indexes**

MEDLINE	Health Source Nursing/Academic Edition
CINAHL	Cochrane Database
PubMed	Joanna Briggs Institute Database
Ovid Emcare	PsycINFO
Web of Science	Food Science & Technology
Health and Wellness Resource Center	Health and Safety Science Abstracts
Health Reference Center Academic	BIOSIS
Nursing & Allied Health Database	

**VI. Access to Information not Available On-site**

- a. Remote Storage  
 Online request forms and document delivery enable access to materials in Clemson Libraries' remote storage facilities within 24 business hours.
- b. Interlibrary Loan  
 The primary access point for journals and secondary access point for books not owned or accessible by Clemson Libraries will be Interlibrary Loan. This service is free to Clemson University students, faculty, and staff.
- c. PASCAL Delivers  
 The primary access point for books not owned or accessible by Clemson Libraries will be PASCAL Delivers. This service provides access to books owned by other academic libraries in the state of South Carolina and is free to Clemson University students, faculty, and staff.

**VII. Selection Tools Used**

- a. Faculty and student requests and recommendations
- b. Course syllabi
- c. Major public health sciences journals
- d. Public Health professional association websites and catalogs

- e. Doody's Core Titles
- f. Medical Library Association recommended titles
- g. Publishers' websites and catalogs
- h. Patron driven acquisition through R2 Digital Library
- i. GOBI approval plan
- j. GOBI online database
- k. Circulation, Interlibrary Loan, and PASCAL Delivers activity

#### **VIII. Deselection Guidelines**

Monographic material, with an imprint of 15 years ago or earlier, which has not circulated for the last ten years, will be reviewed for deselection. Statistical reports are available for review of these titles. Due to the need to maintain materials for historical research and/or reference, older materials may be kept even if they have not circulated recently. If a book has not circulated and is historically important, Special Collections will be asked to house it. If Special Collections does not take the item, storage will be considered if the item is rare or unique to Clemson.

#### **IX. Evaluation Tools**

- a. Circulation, recall, internal use
- b. Interlibrary Loan and PASCAL Delivers requests
- c. *Journal Citation Reports*

#### **X. Collection Assessment and Planning**

- a. Qualitative Measures
  - i. The information access policy for this department will be reviewed every five years.
  - ii. Appropriate bibliographies will be checked against our holdings
  - iii. Benchmarking projects, to be determined
- b. Quantitative Measures
  - i. Interlibrary Loan activities will be monitored to see what subject areas are lacking and what type of materials are most requested.
  - ii. Circulation statistics, for both print and electronic resources, will be reviewed to see which areas of the collection are most heavily used.
  - iii. Keeping track of new research grants undertaken and the new courses taught in the Department of Public Health Sciences can also help determine what materials to purchase and helps in the planning.