Sociology and Social Anthropology Collection Development Policy

Introduction
Massey University Library holds extensive sociology and social anthropology collections relevant to the teaching, learning and research needs of these programmes at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. Furthermore the collection supports and underpins the social and cultural aspects of many other disciplines taught and researched at Massey University, eg. development studies, material and visual culture, linguistics, education, English literature, media studies, human geography, history, politics, health, business, social work, social sector evaluation, art and design.

History of the collection
The faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences was established in 1965 at Palmerston North’s Manawatū campus and sociology and social anthropology were among the first programmes offered. Sociology and anthropology were foundation subjects at the newly-established Albany campus in 1993 and the collection was seeded by books from Manawatū. There is a small collection relating to sociology and social anthropology at Wellington that grew out of the Wellington Polytechnic Library which was merged into Massey University in 1999.

Description of collection

- **Monographs**
  Massey University Library holds over 71,000 print monographs and 39,000 ebooks on topics related to sociology and social anthropology. This material is located primarily at the Manawatū campus library (roughly two thirds) and at Albany, although Wellington collects in this area to support its campus specific areas such as material culture and social sector evaluation. The main geographic areas of focus are New Zealand and the Pacific, Melanesia, South and South East Asia, the United Kingdom, Europe and North America. There is a large collection of works by and on contemporary social theorists as well as social sciences research methodologies, individual sociological studies and ethnographic texts. Topics of study include areas such as identity and culture, social change, globalisation, social theory, health, gender, race, ethnicity and ethnic relations, terrorism, endangered cultures and ritual and belief.

- **Journals/Databases**
  Massey University Library has subscriptions to most major journal publisher collections plus access to journals via aggregated databases. The Library holds approximately 3500 journal publications in the broad subject areas of sociology and social anthropology, the majority of which are online. These include core research journals, occasional and working papers, and newsletters. Massey University Library has current access to the top 20 anthropology journals and to 19 of the 20 most highly-cited sociology and political science journals in SCImago Journal Rankings (SJR). This collection is supported by a large collection of other social sciences titles. Relevant New Zealand journals are also held.
Massey University Library provides online access to most major databases relevant to sociology and social anthropology, the most significant being AnthroSource, Sage Research Methods and the International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences.

- **Other media**
The collection contains several hundred feature films and documentaries in DVD format on a variety of sociology and social anthropology topics. In particular, social anthropological and ethnographical studies of indigenous peoples are collected. The Library subscribes to Ethnographic Video Online which contains collections of anthropological documentaries and eTV, which provides online access to New Zealand and international television channels and recorded television programmes.

**Collection priorities for selection**
Core and current resources are priorities for acquisition. The Library has an ongoing policy of purchasing journal archives as funds permit.

**Areas out of scope**
Physical anthropology is not taught at Massey University.

**Withdrawal and weeding**
Sociology and anthropology material is subject to the Library’s 5-yearly weeding cycle but by the very nature of its subject it has a long shelf-life and duplicates are only weeded when no longer used. The standard retention policy practised by Massey sees one or two superseded editions of textbooks retained.

**Related Collection Development Policies:**
Human Geography, Resource and Environmental Planning, Development Studies; Pasifika; Politics; Social Work and Social Policy.