LSC 608: Collection Development
Spring, 2009
Graduate Syllabus

3 credit hours
Prerequisites: none
Classroom: Caldwell Hall Room 109
Seven (7) Mondays 8/31, 9/14, 10/5, 10/26, 11/30, 12/7 and 12/14
Class meeting time: 4:10pm to 6:40pm.
The other classes/class activities are conducted online via Blackboard

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202-319-5085
kelleyk@cua.edu

Office hours: Tuesdays at 3:15 PM, Marist 228 or by appointment

Course Description (from Cardinal Station: http://cardinalstation.cua.edu):

Principles and practices in selection, evaluating, and managing collections in all types of libraries and information formats. Survey of factors affecting collection building: institutional goals, user characteristics and needs, the publishing industry, special characteristics of materials in particular subject fields, formats and genres. Consideration of such topics as collection development policies, resource sharing, and digital collections.

Instructional Methods:

Seven (7) in-classroom meetings and online, Blackboard-based discussions, assignments, readings, and collaboration. Blackboard is available at: http://bb8.cua.edu

Required Text:

NONE. Each week there will be required readings, online discussion and assignments. The course schedule provides detailed information on the weekly required readings for the course, assignments and due dates.

Assignments:

Three (3) projects total.
3 online assignments (15% total; 5% each)

Project I on reviewing – 10% of the grade

Project II (in two parts):

Part II.1: collection evaluation, 15% of the grade and,
Part II.2: 15% of the grade.

Project III: Developing a Collection Development Policy: 40% of the grade (in three parts as follows):

- Project III.1 collection development policy evaluation: 10%
- Project III.2: creation of a collection development policy: 25%
- Project III.3: Group presentation for Project III on Collection Development Policies: 5% of grade.

Online assignments – 15% of the grade (Three (3) online assignments total; 5% each)

In-Class and Online Participation in Blackboard: 5% of grade.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online assignment I</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>September 13, 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project I</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>September 27, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project II.1</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>October 11, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online assignment II</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>October 18, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project II.2</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>October 25, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project III.1</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>November 15th, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online assignment III</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>November 29, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project III.2</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>December 17th, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project III.3</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>December 14th, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online and in-classroom participation</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>100%</td>
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*** GRADING CRITERIA FOR PROJECTS ***

Please note: Projects may be handed in up to 10:00 p.m. on the due date without excuse or penalty. Projects received later than 10:00 PM on the due date will be penalized 2 points for each 1 hour of lateness.

95-100 points: Exceptional. Such a project fulfills the assignment extremely well. Lists and rankings are complete and accurate. It has something important to say about what does and does not get reviewed, and where - and what it says is clearly related to what was done in the project (e.g., the reviews located and the journals examined).

85-94.99 points: Good solid work. Such a project fulfills the assignment well. Lists and rankings should be complete and accurate, though conclusions about what types of materials do and don't get reviewed are not as clearly presented as in a 12-point project. Even though conclusions may not be clear, all items are included in the discussion, and anything said is clearly based on what was found.
75-84.99 points: Good in some respects, though deficient in others. These projects may contain errors in lists of reviews or in rankings (e.g., missing one or two reviews in an index or miscounting reviews in ranking periodicals - if the same review appears in more than one index, be sure not to count it twice!). The discussion may be incomplete (failing to cover some items), or may make statements not clearly related to what was found.

68-74.99 points: Seriously deficient. These projects do not fulfill the assignment. They may be based on an incomplete list (fewer than 15 items, fewer than 6 book publishers, etc.) or lack a required part, or be based on a seriously deficient search (e.g., multiple instances of missing reviews or one instance of recording some but not all of the full list of reviews found for an item). Their discussion may make points contradicted by what was found and/or discuss matters unrelated to what was found in the search.

Lower and 68: Unacceptable. These projects are seriously incomplete - lacking more than one required part - or are so full of errors (for example, in data collection) that nothing can be safely concluded from the results.

0 points: No credit. Either there has been some serious violation of university policies on academic honesty (for example, plagiarizing), or the project has been handed in so late that the penalty for lateness reduces the grade to this point.

Grading:

Point totals converted to letter grades:

A: 94 – 100
A-: 90 - 93.99
B+: 86 - 89.99
B: 82 - 85.99
B-: 78 - 81.99
C: 70 - 77.99
F: Below 70

Academic honesty: Please read the policy on “Student Academic Dishonesty” in the University's Online Student Handbook - see http://policies.cua.edu/academicundergrad/integrity.cfm. Incidences of academic dishonesty, defined in the Handbook as “failure to observe rules of fairness in taking exams or writing papers, plagiarism, fabrication, and cheating” will result in a grade of F (0 points) on the project or exam in question, and will be reported to the Dean for possible further action (including failure in the course). See the Handbook or discuss the problem with your instructor if you have questions about what is involved in such offenses. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. The University defines plagiarism to include "[1] intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise; [2] failure to attribute any of the following: quotations, paraphrases, or borrowed information from print sources or websites; [3] buying completed papers from other to use as one's own work". For more on what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it, please read (carefully) Margaret Proctor’s “How Not to Plagiarize” [http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep.html].

Students who need help with library jargon used in class and readings may find Joan Reitz's ODLIS: Online Dictionary of Library & Information Science (http://www.lu.com/odlis) useful.

For policies and procedures, see the ARL SPEC Kits (recent items summarized on the ARL web site at: http://www.arl.org/resources/pubs/index.shtml) or the ALA/ACRL CLIP Notes (Mullen Z675.U5 C45).

Recommended Text:

NONE. However, each week there will be required and recommended readings associated with the discussion/class meeting for that week. The recommended readings are not required.

Reading materials and Web-based materials:

The entirety of reading materials, both required and recommended for this course, are provided in a weekly format in the Course Schedule (see below)

Recommended technologies

I am piloting the use of a synchronous, online meeting technology called WebEx this semester in this course. One of our classmates will be joining us online, synchronously on the eight (8) class meeting dates we meet in Caldwell 109.

Further, the use of WebEx is for an alternative to meeting face-to-face when/if that need should arise for any reason. In order to use WebEx from your place of work or home, you will need a broadband connection to the Internet and a telephone. Preferably you would have a headset with a microphone and Web camera to have full WebEx capability and to be visible when participating in a WebEx meeting.

Goals for Student Learning:

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Successfully articulate the production, marketing and distribution practices that determine availability of books and related media to libraries;
2. Describe how materials are acquired by libraries and other information agencies, or otherwise made available to their users;
3. Analyze user needs and propose methods to develop collections responsive to them;
4. Analyze the legal and ethical issues involved in the production, distribution, and use of materials, including responding appropriately to attempts to restrict collection content or use and,
5. Develop a collection policy strategy for a library or information center that is responsive to its user community.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Required Readings</th>
<th>Recommended Readings</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Project I discussed. | Meet in class, August 31, 2009 in Caldwell 109  
Weekly Assignments due by 10:00 PM on September 6, 2009 |
| Week 2  
Do Online Assignment I.  
Work on Project I.  
Online Assignment I due to be posted in the Blackboard classroom by September 13, 2009, 10:00 PM |
|---|---|---|
3. BookCloseOuts [online bookstore specializing in remainders] [http://www.bookcloseouts.com]  
7. The Online Books Page [25,000+ free online books] [http://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/]  
Week 3  

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<td></td>
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<td>4. Collection development electronic-only migration policy. <a href="http://www.lib.cmich.edu/policies/e-only-serials.htm">http://www.lib.cmich.edu/policies/e-only-serials.htm</a></td>
</tr>
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Read required readings.  Meet in Caldwell Hall 109 September 14, 2009
### Week 4: September 21 – September 27th

#### Collection Development Policies

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| 1. | Arizona State Library.  
Collection development policies.  
http://www.cdlib.org/inside/collect/framework.html |
| 2. | Dartmouth College Library.  
Collection Management & Development Division (1999).  
*Guidelines for Writing Collection Development Policies.*  
Collection Development.  
http://www.ala.org/ala/professionalresources/collectiondev/index.cfm |
*Helpful hints for developing subject expertise.*  
http://www.library.uesb.edu/collman/emmhelpfulhints.html |
| 5. | Montgomery County Maryland Public Libraries.  
Collection Development Policy in Brief.  
*Helpful hints for developing subject expertise.*  
http://www.library.uesb.edu/collman/emmhelpfulhints.html |

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**Project I due September 27th, 2009 by 10:00 PM in the digital dropbox of our Blackboard classroom.**
### Week 5: September 28th – October 4, 2009

**Distribution and Acquisitions I: Basic Functions, Single Orders, Out of Print**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
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| Clark, John R. (2007). *Publisher’s Hall of Shame.*  
[http://bubl.ac.uk/link/a/acquisitions.htm] |
[http://personalpages.tds.net/~berek/shame.html] |
[http://www.itcompany.com/inforetriever/acqsercd.htm] |
[http://libstaff.mit.edu/colserv/seracq/claiming/] |
<p>| October 4, 2009, |   |</p>
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week 6</th>
<th></th>
<th>Project II.1 due</th>
<th>Meet in classroom, Caldwell 109, October 5, 2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 5, 2009 – October 11, 2009</td>
<td></td>
<td>Project II.1 due</td>
<td>Project II.1 due October 11, 2009 at 10:00 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


6. The Georgia State University Guidelines for Electronic Reserves: [http://www.usg.edu/copyright/site/additional_guidelines_for_electronic_reserves/]


7. Copyright Clearance Center. [http://www.copyright.com/ccc/home.do]


| Week 7 |
| October 12, 2009 – October 18, 2009 |
| **Distributio** | **n and acquisitions** |
| **II: Approval** | **Plans, Standing** |


### Project II.2


### Project II.2 due October 25th, 2009 by 10:00 PM in the Digital Dropbox of our Blackboard classroom

### Meet in Caldwell 109 on October 26th at 4:10 PM

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### Weeks 8 & 9:

**Alternative media and Electronic Acquisition:**

**Balancing collections**

**October 19, 2009 – November 1, 2009**


| | | [http://www.library.cornell.edu/iris/tutorial/dpm/eng_index.html](http://www.library.cornell.edu/iris/tutorial/dpm/eng_index.html) |
Northeast Document Conservation Center. *Online Course: Preservation 101*

[http://www.nedcc.org/education/online.php]


And...some articles on Google Books and other web-based initiatives:


[http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6466634.html]
Different Institutional Types

[http://www.lrs.org/index.php ]

Academic libraries:

[http://www.arl.org/arlington/stratplan.shtml ]

http://www.aserl.org/statements/competencies/competencies.htm

Boston College Libraries. *Collection Development* [Competencies].
[http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/ulib/staff/cdbasic.html ]


Univ of California, Santa Barbara. Libraries. (2007). *Collection Manager's...
**Manual**

[http://www.library.ucsb.edu/collman/index.html]

Public Libraries:


[http://www.dlapr.lib.az.us/cdt/index.html]


[http://www.mhl.org/about/policies/cd/]

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>Recommended for those interested in reading further:</code></td>
<td>Academic libraries:</td>
<td><code>Recommended for those interested in reading further:</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boston College Libraries. Collection Project III.I due November 15, 2009 by 10:00 PM EDT</td>
<td>Project III.I due on November 15, 2009 by 10:00 PM EDT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development [Competencies].</td>
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<td>Public Libraries:</td>
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<td>School Libraries:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bertland, Linda. Resources for School</td>
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</table>
Librarians: Collection Development.

[http://www.sldirectory.com/libsf/resf/coldev2.html ]


[http://fno.org/apr04/technosavvy.html ]


[Dangers in books recommended to kids for science fair projects]
http://www.psla.org/


[http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslpubs/an djournals/slmrb/slmrcontents/volume52 002/shannon.cfm]


Special Libraries


[http://www.sla.org/content/Shop/Infor mation/infoonline/2002/aug02/finnerty. cfm ]
79. Available in the Blackboard classroom in the Course Documents section.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 12: November 23rd – 29th, 2009</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Intellectual freedom and censorship</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[<a href="http://www.ala.org/al">http://www.ala.org/al</a> a/oif/basics/notcensorship.htm](<a href="http://www.ala.org/al">http://www.ala.org/al</a> a/oif/basics/notcensorship.htm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio Library Council. ORE on the Web, Module 6: Ethics [<a href="http://www.olc.org/or">http://www.olc.org/or</a> e/6intro.htm](<a href="http://www.olc.org/or">http://www.olc.org/or</a> e/6intro.htm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ALSO:</strong> Browse through one issue of the <em>Newsletter on Intellectual Freedom.</em> Available in the Libraries’ database: Library Literature and Information Science full-text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Librarian’s Dilemma: Where do you shelve Neil Gaiman’s Newbery? Available at: <a href="http://www.schoollibr">http://www.schoollibr</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| American Library Association, Guidelines and Considerations for Developing a Public Library Internet Use |
| Index on Censorship [http://digital.library.arizona.edu/nadm/t utorial/index.htm](http://digital.library.arizona.edu/nadm/t utorial/index.htm) |

| **Online Assignment III Due November 29, 2009** |
| **Online Assignment #3 due on November 29, 2009** |

**Week 13:**

**November 30th – December 6th – 13th, 2009**

**Cooperation and Class presentations for Project III.3**
| Week 14 | December 7th – 14th, 2009 | Class Presentations | Project III.3 presentations for Grps 2, 4, and 6 on December 14th, 2009. Presentation supporting materials must be posted in the Blackboard classroom on December 6th, 2009 by Meet in Caldwell 109 for class at 4:10 PM on December 14th, 2009. Final submissions for Project III.3 are due by |

Cost & Performance Studies.

[http://www.lib.iastate.edu/cfora/generic.cfm?cat=gen_libinfo_self&navid=11075&parent=3038]

Northwestern University. School of Law Library. ILLWeb. [Links to info and resources on interlibrary loan]

[http://www.law.northwestern.edu/lawlibrary/illweb/]

Shipman, Jean P. (2007). Document Delivery Suppliers [click on each for services and fees]

[http://www.library.vcu.edu/ml/docsupp/]

Univ of Texas. Copyright in the Library: Interlibrary Loan.

[http://www.utsystem.edu/OGC/Intellectualproperty/l-108g.htm]


[http://www.wrlc.org/resource/colldev/poljourn.shtml]
Project I: Reviewing
Due September 27, 2009

PURPOSE: To evaluate how well review journals alert selectors to materials available for purchase

1. Select 15 items published in 2006 that interest you. For each, provide a full bibliographic citation (author, title, publisher or producer, date if available). The bibliographic citation should be in the American Psychological Association’s citation format. Your choices must be distributed as follows:

11-14 books from at least 6 different publishers. Find them by using WorldCat (electronic database on ALADIN) limiting the date to "2006 - 2006". You can also use American Book Publishing Record or Books in Print [neither at CUA, but held by other libraries], if you wish - looking for items published in 2006–but do not use review sources - select from bibliographic sources, not book reviews!; 2-3 government publications issued in 2006, from the Catalog of U. S. Government Publications (http://catalog.gpo.gov/) - use the advanced search and enter 2006 to 2006 as the date;

2-3 periodicals or magazines, chosen from a serials directory (e.g., Ulrich's - print or electronic) - anything that was being published in 2006, no matter how long ago it began publication.

Any set of 15 items properly distributed among books, government documents, and periodicals is acceptable so long as they were published in 2006 – three years ago, since reviews take time to appear.

2. Search--carefully and completely--for reviews of your material in Book Review Index (available in print in CUA's Mullen Library - be sure to check all volumes and issues from 2006 on) and Book Review Digest (available on ALADIN). (Just those two sources - you don’t have to look anywhere else.)

List every review of each of your 15 items that you find indexed. Copying citations as they appear in the indexes is fine--don't worry about format so long as it's clear. Be sure not to miss anything. The ability to conduct a complete and accurate search for information is important in this field--and if your list is incomplete, your whole project is based on faulty data.

3. Rank the review journals reviewing your items by the number of items each reviewed. (Be careful - don’t count a review more than once just because it was indexed more than once, and don’t count multiple reviews of the same item in the same review journal - that’s still just one item you found reviewed there, not matter how many times they reviewed it.) Present these results in a ranked list headed by the review journal(s) that reviewed the largest number of your items and ending with the review journals that reviewed just one item.
4. **See what you can find out about the books that received no reviews.** Try looking them up on Amazon.com or another online bookstore, and/or see if you can find a web page for their publishers including descriptions of the items. Do they have any characteristics in common? (Don’t worry about finding more information about the government documents or periodicals.)

5. Write a **short (2-5 double-spaced pages) discussion of:**

   **(1) the coverage of your items in review journals.** Generally speaking, were these materials widely reviewed, or not? Can you say anything about the types of review journals that did or didn't review them? Be sure to mention in your paper how many different review journals you would have to consult to find reviews of items that were reviewed - did one journal review all of them, or would you have needed to read more than one - and if so, how many more?

   **(2) the types of items that did not get reviewed.** Be sure to mention how many items were not reviewed anywhere. What characteristics they seemed to have in common?

   **ONE SUGGESTION:** This is a good project to use to find out if you can rely on review journals for selection of materials in an area in which you’d like to work, and to see what review journals would be most helpful in selecting such items. So I’d suggest taking a specific subject (e.g., business) or type of book (e.g., children’s nonfiction) that matches your career objectives. But note that you are not required to do this. You can put the list together any way you want.

   **TWO CAUTIONS:**
   (1) **Do not be alarmed if you find no - or hardly any - reviews at all.** That may be normal for some types of publications - and it’s important information for you if it’s an area in which you expect to work. Talk to me, see if there are alternatives and just keep going - it’s still a successful project, even if you find no reviews at all and have no review journals to rank.

   (2) **Everyone’s work will be checked.** I check 2 or 3 items to make sure searches were complete and accurate.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU WILL BE HANDING IN THREE (3) THINGS:**

1. **YOUR LIST OF 15 ITEMS,** with the reviews each received (see 1 & 2 above)

2. **YOUR RANKED LIST** of review journals, based on the number of items reviewed (see 3 above) - unless, of course, you find no reviews;

3. **YOUR SHORT PAPER** discussing your findings (see 4 & 5 above)

**PROJECT II: COLLECTION EVALUATION PROJECT (Project II Parts 1 and 2)**

**PURPOSE:** To compare strengths and weaknesses of different collection evaluation methods

**Choose a SMALL (10 - 50 titles) collection to evaluate.** It should include everything in a specific classification number or range of numbers and/or shelved in a special location (e.g., all
the Z687s in a branch library or all the links on a web page). THINK SMALL: bigger collections mean less time to think.

**GROUP WORK** is encouraged. Groups submit a single project, and everyone in the group receives the same grade. Inform the instructor before working as a group to let her know who will comprise the group.

**Part II.1** (due October 11, 2009) includes a shelf examination and analysis of use of your collection.

**Part II.2** (due October 25, 2009) includes a plan (just the plan - you are not expected to act on it) for assessing user needs and an analysis of collection quality done by checking an appropriate bibliography or list of recommended works against the collection.

**Project II.1 - COLLECTION EVALUATION (due October 11, 2009)**

**20% of the grade:**

1. **Choose a collection** (any subject, any collection - this is up to you - just keep it small).

2. **Get a list of all materials** in it (e.g., a print-out of catalog records by call number). (You will be handing in this list along with your project - and yes, you may hand in your catalog print-out; retyping not necessary unless you’re submitting it electronically) Please do not request special access to anything. If getting a list presents problems, discuss alternatives with the instructor.

3. **Do a shelf examination.** (a) Look at the collection as it sits on the shelf - is this a collection that would attract use? Are there obvious signs of use (e.g., gaps between books where one has been removed) or disuse (e.g., dust)? (b) Check what is on the shelf against your record of what is supposed to be in the collection - is anything missing? Anything there that is not on your list?) Examine individual items - are they in good condition? Do any need repair or replacement? (d) Do you notice anything else that might affect use of these materials, or indicate something about the collection’s value or about user needs?

4. **Analyze use.** Normally the measure you'll use is circulation - and in many libraries, the most accurate record of use of materials in the circulating collection is the dates stamped in the materials, so you may want to collect information with this along with your shelf examination. (Where all such records are lacking, you may have to rely on physical evidence of use - and include a better plan for studying use in Part B - see IIB,1 below.) Which materials are in demand, and which not?

**NOW SUM THIS ALL UP:** Evaluate your collection, based on your shelf examination and analysis of use. Be sure to mention any problems in gathering or interpreting data. Write up your evaluation as a **four to eight page paper** (double-spaced). Hand it in or submit it electronically (as an .rtf file attached to an email message sent to the instructor at kelleyk@cua.edu) up to **10 PM on Sunday, October 11, 2009**.

**Project II.2 - COLLECTION EVALUATION (due October 25, 2009)**
20% of the grade:

1. Develop a plan for evaluating community information needs relevant to your collection (you must continue with the same collection used for Part A). Remember to include a means of studying use if circulation or equivalent (e.g., date stamp) use records were lacking in doing Part 1.

2. Identify the most appropriate bibliography or list of recommended materials on your subject that you can find, and justify your decision. (The ideal bibliography is up to date, reflects current information needs and assessments of material currently available, and is appropriate to the collection size and the nature of the community served. Ideal bibliographies are rarely available - do the best you can, just as you'd have to do on the job - but be sure to mention other candidates, explain why you feel the one you chose was best, and briefly assess the strengths and weaknesses of the bibliography or list you used.)

3. Evaluate your collection by checking your bibliography against it. Don’t worry about where something is shelved - if a work in the bibliography is owned by your library, it counts, whether it was cataloged into your collection or not. See how many of the listed works you have, and look for any patterns in what you do and don't have (e.g., all the recommended books on Europe but far fewer on Asia or Africa). Remember to check the bibliography against the library’s full collection - which items are owned, no matter where they are housed - and not the collection against the bibliography (whether individual items in your collection are listed in standard bibliographies or not is irrelevant).

4. Compare and contrast what you learned in step 3 of Part 2 (the bibliography check) to what you learned in step 3 (shelf examination) and in step 4 (analysis of use) of Part 1. What does each approach tell you that the others don’t? Do you think that all three together give you a complete evaluation of your collection - or do some questions still remain?

NOW SUM THIS ALL UP: Present your plan for evaluating information needs - and where needed, your plan for studying use. Explain how you chose your list or bibliography of recommended books (and why it's the best choice for your collection). Then discuss your collection's quality, based on results of checking your bibliography or list against the collection. Be sure to mention any problems - in developing a plan, in selecting a bibliography, or in gathering or interpreting data - and to include a few pages comparing and contrasting the three different approaches to evaluation (shelf examination, analysis of use, bibliography check) - how do the problems in implementing them, as well as the results, compare? Write this up your evaluation as a five to ten page paper (double-spaced). Submit the paper electronically in the Blackboard classroom’s Digital Dropbox by 10 PM on Sunday October 25th, 2009.

Project III.1: EVALUATING COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICIES (due November 15, 2009) (10% of the final grade)

Purpose: To critically evaluate collection development policies in libraries and information centers.

1. Select two collection development policies to examine. Preferably, the policies selected should be in the same area (e.g., special, public, academic) as the collection policy you
are developing in Part 2 of this project. These policies may be ones from an actual library OR you may select them from [http://www.acqweb.org/cd_policy.html](http://www.acqweb.org/cd_policy.html). Examine the two collections critically. In a five-seven (5-7) page paper, provide an analysis of the policies you selected that includes answers to the following questions:

2. Issues to consider as you prepare the paper:
   a. What type of policy is it?
      1. Is it primarily narrative?
      2. Does it include class analysis?
      3. Is it a combination of both types?
   b. How thorough is the policy?
      1. Does it include all of the elements of a comprehensive collection development policy?
      2. What are the primary elements of the policy?
      3. Do these appear to be the most important elements and is it comprehensive in coverage of the elements of a policy?
   c. Does it cover the entirety of materials collected in the collection or does it exclude certain materials (or remain silent on these materials?)
   d. Is the policy clear and readable?
   e. Does it appear to be regularly updated?
   f. Does it appear to be informative and useful?
   g. Does it lack any information that would be useful to have as a library staff member? Patron?
   h. Who appears to be the audience for the policy?
   i. Does the policy indicate how often it is updated or how it is updated and by whom?

3. After you consider the above questions, evaluate the collection development policy, draw some conclusions about the policy and be sure to highlight which of the two policies is better and explain why. If you believe the policies could be improved, explain how they could be improved and what you would do to improve the policies.

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**Project III.2: CREATING A COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY (due December 17th, 2009)**

(25% of the final grade)

**Purpose:**

To develop a collection development policy for a library or information center. Please select one of the two scenarios provided below (or obtain the instructor’s permission to do an alternative library or information organizational type) to guide your group as you create a collection development policy. This is a group project. Groups will be established on the fourth week of the semester. Once established, group members need to introduce themselves to one another and find an opportunity to get together to discuss the project and your group’s approach to completing the project. The Blackboard classroom site is one location where you can collaborate and work together if getting together in person poses problems.
As your group discusses how to approach the collection development policy assignment, remember the basic elements that exist in any collection development policy are as follows:

1. An introduction
2. A statement of the mission, vision and goals for the library
3. A description of the community served
4. A statement of the people/process for developing the collection
5. An intellectual freedom statement
6. The source of funds used to develop the collection, including formulas, when relevant that guide spending for the library
7. The selection priorities, procedures for the library including what is collected, what is not collected, who the collection is intended to serve and how the library addresses deficiencies in the collection also. This likely the heart of the document and should provide a clear understanding for the reader of the library’s approach to collection development. It is especially important to discuss all types of materials in the collection and if relevant, provide a special section on the collection policy for electronic collections.
8. A description of any special collections and the priorities and procedures for collection for these materials.
9. The library’s approach to weeding material in the collection and how the library disposes of materials once they are no longer relevant/useful in the collection.
10. A section stating the library’s acceptance of gifts and donations, how the library will approach gifts and whether the gifts become the property of the library.
11. A description of any cooperative relationships maintained by the library
12. The library’s approach to handling complaints and challenges to the collection.

Be sure your group is considering the above elements as you select your approach to developing a collection development policy. Further, that you consider the issues that arose when you examined, and evaluated, a collection development policy in the Part I of this assignment. To begin, select one of the library scenarios provided below and let the instructor know which library scenario, #1 or #2, (or an approved alternative) you will use as the basis for formulating your collection development policy.

There are three basic models for a collection development policy: the classed analysis, narrative, or a combination of elements from these two basic models. Further, e-collections are typically incorporated into the collection development policy to some extent.

**POTENTIAL SCENARIOS**

**Scenario I:**

**Cook County Public Library**

The Cook County Public Library is located in a small southern town of approximately 10,000. It is a member of a regional public library network of fourteen public libraries, each serving towns of similar size. The libraries in the network share a union online catalog and have twice-weekly courier service between the libraries. The Cook County Library has a collection of 30,000 volumes and 120 current subscriptions. The network of public libraries for the region also provides patron access to approximately 25 databases which include reader advisory databases and basic reference databases that are chosen by the representatives from each library in
collaboration with their colleagues. The libraries in the network have a formula for the sharing of
the costs of providing the databases to the counties’ residents. The library has a small special
collection of historic maps from the region and a collection focusing on the works of local authors
from the area. There are four terminals in the library that provide access to the union catalog, the
Internet, and the databases provided through the network. The databases offered include OCLC’s
WorldCat, Masterfile Premier, HealthSource Consumer Edition, Novelist, and Gale Legal Forms.
The Cook County Library has a full-time professional librarian, Matthew Boyd, who reports to
the town’s library board and manages the library. He has 3.5 full-time staff members, none of
whom have the graduate library degree. One staff member serves as the children’s library staff
member for programming and selection. Matthew is responsible for selecting all of the other
materials.

The annual materials budget is $45,000 of which $12,000 is spent on serials and $10,000 is spent
on databases and the rest is dedicated to book purchasing. The population in Cook County is
growing rapidly and Matthew Boyd has successfully obtained permission to expand the size of
the Cook County Library. However, the timeline for the newly expanded branch will take 7-10
years. In the meantime, the Cook County Branch is rapidly running out of space and needs to
send materials to a storage facility, shared by the network, in order to allow for increased space to
a cramped, but heavily used children’s collection. In addition, Matthew’s library board wants the
Cook County Library to serve as the focus of support for services to the elderly and disabled, in
addition to its role in serving the general user population at the branch. There are funds under
consideration to support this effort, the current amount varies between $7,000 - $10,000 over a
three year period.

The Cook County Library is the main library used by the local public schools. There are three
schools nearby to the branch of which one is a private, religious school that lacks a library
entirely. As a result, Cook County regularly receives lists of materials needed to support the
students in both the public and private institutions in close proximity. Often, the students depend
on the public library to provide support for their school projects. In addition, there is growth in
the County in the assisted living market. Cook County recently became the location of two, new
assisted living facilities because of the availability of the tri-county hospital located near the
library.

Cook County is the county seat, contains the County Courthouse, the hospital for three counties,
and the jail. The primary source of income is farming. However, the community is not far from a
major city and is rapidly becoming a bedroom community with a large commuter population.

Scenario II:

Forest College

Forest College is a small liberal arts college located in a Groversville, Ohio. Groversville is an
extremely remote location (to this day) where the founders, ministers of a religious denomination,
believed the students could be focused on education without distractions. In 150 years, the
library has amassed a collection of approximately 650,000 volumes, 600 current serial
subscriptions, and 140 databases. The library’s budget for collection development is $1,600,000
dollars of which a third is from endowment income because the donors wanted to encourage
buying in specific areas such as American Literature, an area of excellence for the College. There
is also an endowment of $50,000 to purchase books for entertainment; a donor provided the
endowment to ensure students had reading material for relaxation in addition to their school-
related reading. The rise in serials prices caused the College to curtail their book buying to continue to cover the cost of the serials in the collection and slowed purchasing of serials titles to the extent that the College no longer buys a new title without first dropping a current title in the collection. There have been no substantial increases in the library’s budget in the previous 10 years. Each academic discipline has a faculty member who has a materials budget to purchase books or other one-time purchases provided from the library’s budget. There are five librarians in the library with selection responsibility for the disciplines. The librarians have their own budget for selection in addition to the funds spent by the faculty member within the department. In the event the faculty member does not purchase materials from his/her budget, the librarian may also spend those funds. There are often funds left over from the faculty because they claim they do not need books but access to serials of importance to their discipline. There are 21 disciplines in the College and four programs such as women’s studies, environmental studies, Afro-American studies and medieval studies (these programs are not majors but do lead to a certificate in association with obtaining the baccalaureate degree). Developing new programs is one mechanism the College uses to be competitive and demonstrate relevance to a changing society and student interests.

The library has an archives and special collections. The areas of collection are first editions and 19th century American writers. There is a collection of government documents that takes up roughly one third of the floors of the library. However, the library has not been a Federal repository since 1878. The library building was erected in the 1960s but there have never been any additions to the library and so by 2010 it will be full to capacity. There is no off-site storage for the library and there are no current plans to expand the library’s physical space. There are 2000 students and 140 full-time faculty. The institution is a highly-selective liberal arts college and as a result, students are highly motivated and 40% go on to obtain a Ph.D. and teach at other colleges or universities. In addition, the college’s library is the main library serving the local community. This includes having substantial non-credit summer programs which offer on-site housing and use of the library. These summer programs focus on a music festival and a nationally acclaimed writing program lead by one of Forest College’s faculty who is an internationally acclaimed writer. The primary economy for the local community is tourism and agriculture. The College is a major employer for the area. The primary audience for the library’s collection, in the view of the Library Director, is the students and faculty of the college. One of the space issues is that the library is the only place on campus where students can work in groups and so space in the library is extremely popular and students spend a significant amount of time in the library working in small groups.

The Forest College library is part of two consortiums. One is a group of colleges in the region, most of which are less well funded than the Forest College library. The second group is a consortium that covers a larger area and the colleges in this group are of similar size. In the second consortium the libraries share a common union catalog. There are also shared databases that are purchased to serve the member libraries. The purchases are supported by the consortium members through a formula based on the library’s materials budget and size of the faculty and students served.

**Process for Developing the Collection Policy:**

1. Decide on which scenario (above or an approved alternative) you will use as the basis for developing your collection development policy.
2. Decide which type of policy document style you want to use. Select narrative, class analysis or a combination of both. Be sure to include a justification for your choice of
approach for your collection development policy. Why did you select this type of model? What are the advantages or disadvantages of this model? Is this model more or less useful for this type of library?

3. Develop an outline of the policy for review and feedback by the instructor. Be sure to consider which elements to include in the policy and further, which elements to exclude. Discuss what other policies need to be formulated in addition to the policy you are developing.

4. Discuss which stakeholders should be consulted in formulating the collection development policy.

5. Provide information on what fund lines and sub-accounts that would be in the budget and defend those selections based on the policy and support of the purposes of the policy.

6. Decide the audience for your collection development policy.

7. Describe the likely approval process the policy will go through to be formally approved and implemented.

8. Develop the policy itself considering the above items in the process of policy formulation for final submission of your collection development policy.

Project III.3: PRESENTING THE COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY (due December 6th for posting in the online classroom Discussion Board with final versions due on December 13th, 2009)

5% of final grade

Group presentation for Project III: The Collection Development Policy. Develop a multimedia presentation (PowerPoint and/or Web) of the collection development policy you created, the reasons for your choice of policy approach and a brief overview of the process you went through to develop the policy. Prepare to give a face-to-face presentation for your colleagues where you talk about the elements you considered, discuss the questions provided above in III.2 and your conclusions about the policy and process. Discuss what you learned, what you think went well and what you thought did not go as well as desired. Discuss how this project affected your perspective on developing a collection development policy and what you would do the same (or differently) in the future. Post the your PowerPoint slides and/or Web-based presentation, in the Discussion Section of the online classroom in Blackboard by 10:00 PM EDT on December 6th, 2009 for review and comment by your classmates prior to your presentation to the class as a whole (changes may be made to this element of Project III until December 13, 2009 when it is due by 10:00 PM).

Formatting of your assignments.

• If you are submitting hard copy work, securely fasten together any papers that are more than 1 page.

• Place your name(s) and the assignment name and assignment number on the first page.

• Minimum margins are 1 ¼” left and 1” top, bottom, and 1 ¼” right.

• Use double-spaced line spacing, or space and a half, not single-spaced.
• Submitted work must have a professional appearance and may not be handwritten.

• *Any* work submitted with numerous grammatical errors will result in penalty. *Don’t give me your first draft.* I will know it is the first draft. Be sure to edit, revise, and provide me with a clean copy of your work. This is expected in your professional life, provide me the same courtesy.

**Participation & Conduct:**

• *Attendance and participation online is mandatory.* Attendance and online participation is required, in keeping with university policy. Your participation grade will drop by 5 points for each absence from one of our seven class meetings (unless previously approved by the instructor for a reason such as a family or personal emergency). Failure to participate in online discussions or online assignments will also lower the participation grade for this course by two (2) points for each week of missed participation or missing online assignment.

• *Late work.* Assignments are due on the date by 10:00 PM EDT. Assignments turned in after the due date/time without prior approval will be penalized 10% 2 points for each hour of lateness. Assignments that are over 3 days late will NOT be accepted unless arrangements have been made with me. I encourage you to consult with me about any special circumstances that will affect your ability to finish your assignments or turn in your assignments on time in advance of the assignment due date whenever possible.

• *Makeup work.* If a student has a legitimate reason, such as a family emergency, I will consider allowing makeup work. The amount and nature of the work is up to me and will be graded by the end of the semester.

• *Arrive on time.* Chronic lateness negatively affects the class participation grade.

• *Behave respectfully.* Students are expected to behave respectfully while in class and in online discussions. Participation grades will reflect a student’s maturity level and professionalism, and whether the student actively participates in class discussions. Students are expected to follow netiquette and demonstrate thoughtfulness and consideration of others in their email, forum, blog or wiki communications.

• *No phone calls during class.* Turn off or silence cell phones and pagers. Students leaving the room for calls are not allowed to return to that class session.

• *No grade discussions in class.* I cannot adequately discuss grades in class. First consider why I deducted points. If you still disagree, explain your disagreement in a private e-mail to me only. I will also meet to discuss with you if you continue to have issues with the grade(s).

**Campus Resources for student support:**

Academic Tutoring and Learning Assistance Service (ATLAS) [http://counseling.cua.edu/atlas/](http://counseling.cua.edu/atlas/)
101 O'Boyle Hall
Phone: (202) 319-5018

CUA Counseling Center
http://counseling.cua.edu/services/
127 O'Boyle Hall
Phone: (202) 319-5765

Mullen Library
http://libraries.cua.edu/welcome.html
Phone: (202) 319-5070

Office of Career Services
http://careers.cua.edu/

Syllabus changes:

I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus if circumstances warrant such change. All changes will be provided to students in writing either in a handout in class or via the Blackboard classroom for this course.