

**Executive Summary**  
**Auxiliary Sciences of History Collection Assessment**  
Submitted by Karlie Johnson  
April 30, 2024

**INTRODUCTION**

The Auxiliary Sciences of History Collection is a supportive library collection that impacts the University curriculum across all majors, minors, graduate, and specialized programs at Jacksonville State University. The collection is sufficient to support these and other related course offerings. Complete conspectus sheets are available upon request for a more detailed examination of the collection.

**HOLDINGS**

The Auxiliary Sciences of History collection contains **3,996** titles in the C-CT call number ranges. This also includes **1,410** e-books.

These numbers represent a snapshot of the collection, as titles are continually added and withdrawn for collection maintenance and growth. These numbers do not represent additional titles available through e-book databases.

| <b>Classification</b> | <b>Subject Area</b>                     | <b>Library Holdings</b> |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------------|
| C                     | Auxiliary Sciences of History (General) | 6                       |
| CB                    | History of Civilization                 | 1,288                   |
| CC                    | Archaeology                             | 376                     |
| CD                    | Diplomatics, Archives, Seals            | 253                     |
| CE                    | Calendar, Technical Chronology          | 32                      |
| CJ                    | Numismatics, Coins, Medals              | 70                      |
| CN                    | Inscriptions, Epigraphy                 | 6                       |
| CR                    | Heraldry                                | 178                     |
| CS                    | Genealogy                               | 455                     |
| CT                    | General Biography                       | 1,332                   |
| <b>Total</b>          |   | <b>3,996</b>            |

**Monograph/Serials Expenditures for Auxiliary Sciences of History**

As the Auxiliary Sciences of History class ranges can be applied across all disciplines, associated monetary amounts for monographs and serials expenditures are accounted for in other subject collection assessments. Collection practices for Auxiliary Sciences of History are utilized across Library discipline collections to maintain a sufficient subject support core.

**PERIODICALS AND SERIALS**

The Library has access to full-text journals available throughout the Library databases. There are some journals related to Auxiliary Sciences of History subject areas available electronically

through database subscriptions. These can be found in EBSCO's Publication Finder, <https://bit.ly/3xR6Tx9>.

### **DEFINED ACCESS TO ELECTRONIC RESOURCES**

Defined access points users to resources through menu options on the Library's homepage by linking the user to quality, highly relevant, electronic resources. Because the Library provides access to electronic journals, documents, e-books, and video databases along with integrated quality websites that encompass the area of Auxiliary Sciences of History, the Library's electronic collection in this subject is sufficient to support the curriculum.

A complete list of all of the Library's databases can be found in the A to Z Database Listing at <http://libguides.jsu.edu/az.php>. The A to Z List also subdivides databases by subject, providing access to Auxiliary Sciences of History related subject databases which can be accessed through the search function on the A to Z Database webpage.

Complete details are available in the full assessment, which is available upon request or at <http://bit.ly/2fyeMMU>.

## Auxiliary Sciences of History Collection Assessment

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### **INTRODUCTION**

The Auxiliary Sciences of History Collection is a supportive library collection that impacts the University curriculum across all majors, minors, graduate, and specialized programs at Jacksonville State University. Some of the major disciplines include Anthropology, Education, English, Gender Studies, Geography, History, Psychology, and Social Sciences. The collection is sufficient to support these and other related course offerings. Complete conspectus sheets are available upon request for a more detailed examination of the collection.

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## **TITLES ADDED/TITLES PUBLISHED**

Below is a comparison of the number of book titles added to the Houston Cole Library collection versus those made available for sale each fiscal year through GOBI. These figures contain many Auxiliary Sciences of History and other related area books, some outside the scope of the Library of Congress classification for this assessment, and some are not collected in numbers as large as GOBI has listed.

### **Monographs Added Versus Published Comparison**

| <b>Fiscal Year</b> | <b>Added to Collections C-CT</b> | <b>GOBI New Titles Report<sup>1</sup> C-CT</b> | <b>Percentage</b> |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| 2013-2014          | 29                               | 273  | 11%               |
| 2014-2015          | 22                               | 283  | 8%                |
| 2015-2016          | 10                               | 270  | 4%                |
| 2016-2017          | 22                               | 313  | 7%                |
| 2017-2018          | 26                               | 319  | 8%                |
| 2018-2019          | 21                               | 310  | 7%                |
| 2019-2020          | 15                               | 331  | 5%                |
| 2020-2021          | 14                               | 293  | 5%                |
| 2021-2022          | 20                               | 350  | 6%                |
| 2022-2023          | 9                                | 261  | 3%                |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>188</b>                       | <b>3,003</b>                                   | <b>6%</b>         |

## **CHECKLIST SUMMARIES**

Bibliographies including *Choice's Outstanding Academic Titles (OATs)* and *Resources for College Libraries* were used to measure the quality of the Library's collection. In checking the bibliographies against the Library's catalog, the following percentages were revealed in the subject area of Auxiliary Sciences of History.

| <b><i>Choice's Outstanding Academic Titles 2013-2023: C, Auxiliary Sciences of History</i></b> |               |                     |
|--|---------------|---------------------|
| <b>Collected</b>   | <b>Listed</b> | <b>Percent Held</b> |
| 32   | 35            | 91%                 |

| <b><i>Resources for College Libraries, Reviewed in Choice, 2013-2023</i></b> |               |                     |
|--|---------------|---------------------|
| <b>Collected</b>   | <b>Listed</b> | <b>Percent Held</b> |
| 97   | 152           | 64%                 |

<sup>1</sup> GOBI New Titles Report

([https://www.gobi3.com/StaticContent/GOBIContent/YBP/Private/Help/Pages/newtitlereport\\_us.html](https://www.gobi3.com/StaticContent/GOBIContent/YBP/Private/Help/Pages/newtitlereport_us.html))

## **WITHDRAWALS**

As currency of information is very important in the Auxiliary Sciences of History collection, older books are withdrawn on a regular basis or as newer editions supersede them, and new books are ordered to fill gaps as curriculum requirements change. The table below shows withdrawals from the C-CT classifications.

| <b>Fiscal Year</b> | <b>C-CT Titles Withdrawn</b> |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 2013-2014          | 1                            |
| 2014-2015          | 10                           |
| 2015-2016          | 0                            |
| 2016-2017          | 0                            |
| 2017-2018          | 4                            |
| 2018-2019          | 21                           |
| 2019-2020          | 99                           |
| 2020-2021          | 6                            |
| 2021-2022          | 8                            |
| 2022-2023          | 5                            |
| 2023-2014          | 0                            |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>154</b>                   |

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The following indexes and bibliographies were checked against the Library's holdings for serial titles pertaining to related topics in Auxiliary Sciences of History, revealing the corresponding percentages quantitatively and qualitatively:

| <b><i>Magazine for Libraries-Related Topics, 2020</i></b> |                  |               |                     |
|---|------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| <b>Related Topics</b>                                     | <b>Collected</b> | <b>Listed</b> | <b>Percent Held</b> |
| Archaeology   | 25               | 26            | 96%                 |
| Archives and Manuscripts                                  | 12               | 14            | 86%                 |
| Genealogy   | 3                | 18            | 17%                 |
| Life Writing/Biography                                    | 1                | 5             | 20%                 |
| News and Opinion  | 14               | 20            | 70%                 |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>55</b>        | <b>83</b>     | <b>66%</b>          |

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Through partnerships, such as the one with the Alabama Virtual Library (AVL), the Library is able to obtain more content. Resources provided to the Library by the AVL are designated with the AVL icon.

## **SUMMARY**

### **Strengths:**

Total holdings, conspectus evaluation, and checklist comparisons indicate the overall Auxiliary Sciences of History collection is sufficient to support the curriculum. Of note on the conspectus worksheet are the holdings in the subject areas of: History of Civilization and General Biography.

A review of the journal holdings reveals that the Auxiliary Sciences of History collection is sufficient to support the curriculum.

### **Weaknesses:**

Total holdings, conspectus evaluations, and checklist comparisons indicate that the weakest areas of the Auxiliary Sciences of History subject areas are: Calendar, Technical Chronology; Numismatics, Coins, Medals; and Inscriptions, Epigraphy.

### **Recommendations:**

The growth rate of the Auxiliary Sciences of History Collection should be maintained to provide support for all connected disciplines. The monograph collection should be generally increased, based on the Library budget. The periodical collection available via databases is sufficient and should be maintained. The weak subject areas (noted above) should also be addressed in future additions to the collection.