

Popular Reading Collection Development Policy

The Popular Reading Collection is a highly curated collection and display of books that are of popular or general leisure reading interest. This collection differs from other Library collections in that titles will not permanently remain in this collection. Books will be purchased for this collection and reviewed annually. After review, books will either remain in the collection, be added to Main Collection, or withdrawn. Titles will be added and removed based on several factors as described in the following sections. The main purpose of this collection is to promote leisure reading by offering a browseable and easily accessible collection of titles that is physically separate from the main monograph collection.

Users & Programs Supported

Popular literature acquired by EOU Library for the Popular Reading Collection supports the general leisure reading interests of members of the Eastern Oregon University community as well as the local community. The books in this collection are for local use and are not eligible for Summit or Interlibrary Loan requests. The collection is primarily adult fiction with some nonfiction titles.

Selection Responsibility

The responsibility for the selection of popular reading materials is delegated to the faculty librarian who is maintaining and promoting this collection with input from the literature librarian as needed.

Selection Criteria

The primary goal of this collection is to provide fiction titles in a range of genres that are of popular or general leisure reading interest. The genres include but are not limited to Historical Fiction, Mysteries, Thrillers, Westerns, Romance, Women's Fiction, Fantasy, Science Fiction, Mainstream or General Fiction, and Nonfiction. There is an emphasis on current fiction or those books published within the last few years. However, older titles that are part of a series, or older titles from authors who have been identified as popular with Library users may also be selected. Selection is based on traditional collection development sources of book reviews as well as more mainstream sources. Examples include reviews or best of lists from Booklist, Amazon.com, Goodreads.com, NPR Books, librarian or reading blogs, and readers' advisory publications and websites. Selection criteria also include usage statistics that indicate genres or authors popular with EOU Library users.

Collection Scope

Books will be purchased in the English language and in either paperback or hardcover binding depending on what is available in regard to publication date. One copy of each book will be purchased unless high use is anticipated.

Collection Arrangement

Books are cataloged as if they belong to the Main Collection and are assigned Library of Congress call numbers. The books are then manually given a temporary location of Popular Reading to separate them from the Main Collection. They are on display in the designated Popular Reading area. The books are arranged in the display to be easy to browse and visually appealing.

Collection Maintenance

Due to the purpose and nature of this collection it is frequently and consistently reviewed and books are added and removed from the display. The collection is reviewed on a monthly basis to ensure all titles assigned to the Popular Collection are in the correct location and have not been reshelved to the Main Collection. The books are periodically rearranged to maintain an organized and visually appealing display. Statistical reports on usage are periodically reviewed to evaluate usage and popular titles, genres, and authors. The collection is reviewed annually to decide which titles to permanently add to the Main Collection and which titles to withdraw.

Collection Preservation

Worn or damaged books that merit retention will be repaired by the Library unless condition warrants replacement.

Collection Retention

Due to space restrictions as well as the current and popular nature of this collection it will be updated with new titles on a yearly basis. The titles from the previous year will be reviewed and either added to the Main Collection or withdrawn using the normal withdrawal procedures. The librarian responsible for the Popular Collection will remove the older titles from the display and provide a list of those titles to the librarian responsible for collection development in the literature section of the Main Collection. The list of titles will also include usage data for the titles while on display, and any information that may be relevant or helpful to the literature librarian.

