

Arts

Senate House Library's art and art history collection cover the study of art, architecture, and visual culture from antiquity to the present. It includes extensive textual and visual documentation about individual paintings, prints, drawings, art movements, drawings, sculpture, architecture and the decorative arts. It is comprised of scholarly print and online reference sources, core texts, journals and catalogues raisonnés. The collection also covers the history of collecting and aesthetics, art museums and art conservation. The collection focusses primarily on English language publications, exhibition catalogues, encyclopaedias, and artists' books. The earliest historical periods of British, European, US and Latin American art and its relevant sub-disciplines to the present are covered. It includes aesthetics, architectural and design history, ceramics, painting, photography, sculpture and smaller sections on decorative art and textiles. The collection's extremely wide-ranging holdings include monographs and journals as well as related sales and exhibition catalogues. Materials are mostly in English but there is a strong corpus of material in Italian, French, German and Spanish. The art collection has strong connections with the Palaeography and Book Studies collections and is augmented by material on performance art and theory in the Film and Media collection. Art-related material from Latin America and the United States is selected and located with those area studies collections.

The art collection traces its origins to a gift of around 600 volumes in the Preedy Memorial Collection of Art and Archaeology which was accepted by the University Senate in 1922. Up until that time, the library's holdings were quite limited and not further developed until the movement of the Courtauld Institute of Art into Portman Square in 1932. Senate House Library's art collection is associated with the collections of the Warburg Institute Library.

Book Studies

The book studies collection relates to the study of print culture including books, newspapers, journals, ephemera and prints in all their aspects, from the beginning of printing in the West to the current digital age. This encompasses writing, editing, printing, publishing, selling, reading and the physical production and composition of print and textual mediums in the past, present, and future. It directly supports the History of the Book MA course and research at the Institute of English Studies as well as history, literature, media and culture courses across the University.

The collection has a broad base and is rich in material from and about Britain, Western Europe, Latin America, the United States and the Commonwealth, and there are significant holdings in west European languages (notably French, German, Italian and Spanish). Other areas of the world are covered less comprehensively, but modern English language works on international book history and print culture are acquired to broaden the scope of the collection. There are significant holdings in print from the 19th and 20th centuries.

Subject strengths of the collection include the history of printing, publishing, and bookselling in Britain, reading and reception studies, history of newspapers and periodicals, coverage of west European, United States and Commonwealth book history in the modern period, book illustration and print production, print technologies and processes and the history of libraries.

The collection complements and intersects with the Library's collections in history, literature, art history, media, and cultural studies, publishers' archives, and early works on printing techniques and book collecting. It also provides supporting and critical material for collections of rare and early printed books and historical periodicals.

Commonwealth Studies

The Commonwealth studies collection covers the history, politics, and social sciences of the Commonwealth as an organisation and among individual member countries. The Commonwealth is defined broadly to include non-independent territories and members currently not in membership due to withdrawal or suspension.

The collection contains material spanning c.1800 to date with a strong emphasis on the twentieth century. There is a wide range of materials, including pamphlets, working papers and reports. The pamphlets and ephemera, relating to political activity, struggles for independence, and the business of government across the Commonwealth, form a substantial strength of the collection. The collection includes topics such as statistics and general reference material, history and geography, population, settlement, migration, race, women's empowerment, economics, agriculture and industry, resources, the environment, international economic relations, globalisation and regionalisation, international relations, security, government, politics, participation and human rights. The collection is strong overall but has a particular reputation for coverage of the Caribbean, Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific, and Southern Africa. Although a small part of the collection, coverage of modern Cyprus is strong. The collections of national and international statistical annuals as well as census reports and the colonial Blue Books, and of official and government publications form part of the collection. Literature, music and cultural studies are not part of the collection, except where the work takes a political approach.

There is much related material elsewhere in the Library, of particular interest being the Apartheid archives, the Commonwealth archives on education, and archives related to British slavery.

Digital Humanities

The Library collects materials on the field of digital humanities both as a methodological approach and as a field of study. The subject is transdisciplinary and concerns the use of digital and computational tools in humanities research, investigating digitised and born-digital text, images, archives and data, and the digital in culture, history and society. New works are collected in the following areas: general works such as introductions and companions, theory and criticism on practice and principles, studies and results of projects, teaching and learning using digital humanities, digital and online research methods, digital cultural heritage and select practical and technical guides, particularly to support the need of students, researchers and staff of the School of Advanced Study.

Subject-specific material is also acquired across the Library's collections. In English literature works explore how various digital tools and methods are used to analyse and interpret literature, either across a broad range of texts or focussed on single authors. When related to literature, computational analysis can include stylometry (statistical analysis of literary style), 'distant' reading of texts, spatial interpretation and visualisation (including mapping). In languages digital research encompasses corpus linguistics, digital discourse analysis, digital cultural studies, translation studies and other approaches to language study, written or verbal. In history, digital history is an established subdiscipline of history research as well as digital humanities. It includes historical studies which use digital methods to study and present the outputs of their chosen subject area as well as research into the history of digital technologies and their impact on society in the 20th and 21st centuries. In philosophy the emerging field of digital empirical philosophy of science extracts novel insights from large electronic resources and data to draw generalisation about how science is done. A similar approach is also used to interpret whole periods within the history of philosophy. In psychology, there is a growing application of text analysis methods for personality recognition, allowing for accurately extracting information about people and groups, including personalities, individual differences, social processes and mental health through the words that people write and speak. In the social sciences large-scale analysis of digitised

compilations of rare and unique archival collections, topic modelling and term frequency analysis are commonly employed digital tools. Sociological analysis of digital data and critical analysis of digital media are an expanding area of research. Palaeography and book studies covers works on digital textual editing, digital text recognition and manipulation and the digital information age. Digital classics are also collected, although classics is not in scope in the general collecting policy of the Library.

English

The English collection is an extensive research resource covering a breadth of literary topics and interests. At the heart of the collection is a chronological span of texts from Old English to date. The collection includes supporting material on critical theory, comparative literature, and the development of the English language. The language of the collection is overwhelmingly English, although there is a small number of texts in other languages where writers who are known chiefly for their writings in English have also written in other languages, for example the French of Samuel Beckett. The primary focus is literature written in England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland. The literature of the Commonwealth also constitutes an aspect of the collection, perhaps most notably from Canada and New Zealand.

The collection's holdings in Old and Middle English, Early Modern drama, and the novel of the Victorian and modernist periods are particularly well developed. Old and Middle English is strong in primary texts of literary scholarship, including that from nineteenth-century philologists. The Early Modern drama is rich in Shakespeare holdings, which range from nineteenth century collected works to contemporary critical works. The Victorian and early twentieth century holdings cover the canonical and non-canonical, including women's travel writing and popular writers in cheaper editions. The collection has a significant collection of titles from scholarly societies of varying size dedicated to individual authors. Holdings from the latter decades of the twentieth century onwards predominantly consist of a substantial collection of secondary works although short story collections are actively purchased with the Troup Horne fund. The collection contains around 2000 pamphlets, many self-published and privately printed, covering poetry, prose, and criticism, which provide an alternative view of the discipline to the canonical texts.

Environmental Humanities

Environmental humanities is an emerging interdisciplinary collection strength the Library is actively developing. Although there is no one definition of this research area, it broadly concerns ecological issues, especially in response to the climate crisis, and human/environment and culture/nature interactions. The subject is attracting increasing scholarly interest and is an established area of focus at the School of Advanced Study's Institute of Language, Cultures and Societies.

Materials on environmental humanities are represented across the Library's print and online collections in forms of primary texts, secondary works, journals and databases. The subject is expressed across many of the Library's collections including literature, history, social sciences, and philosophy, and within the various regional collections: Commonwealth studies, Latin American studies, and U.S. studies.

Topics within the Library's literature collections include works of and about nature writing, ecocriticism, and the Anthropocene. Works are both general literary criticism and related to specific literary periods or theories. For the collecting area history, we acquire works that highlight global and regional approaches to the history of the human impact on the environment and human interactions with the environment. This includes subject areas such as agricultural history, economic history, the history of trade and empire, food history, landscape history, climate history, and animal history. For social sciences and cultural studies, we purchase works on political, social

and cultural ecology, radical environmentalism, environmental philosophy and anthropology, ecofeminism and women & environmental movements, environmental and conservation psychology.

As well as acquiring current and new works and research in environmental humanities, the Library's Special Collections and Archives also provide material on environmental history, environmental activism and human's relationship with the natural world that can be reconsidered from an ecocritical perspective.

Exile, Migration & Cultural Memory

Cultural memory studies turn on the exploration of the psychological processes and social contexts through which cultural memory is shaped, circulated, revised and contested. Over the last 40 years, the relationship between culture and memory has emerged in the Library's collections as a key issue of interdisciplinary research and it involves fields and collections as diverse as history, sociology, art, literary and media studies, philosophy, aesthetics and the neurosciences. The Library's collections bring together a diverse array of new and established publications in this rapidly expanding field of memory studies and works closely together with the Centre for Cultural Memory.

The Library's migration and exile collection bring together diverse collections whose central concerns are questions regarding nation, memory, space and language. They explore the different global and cultural spaces of exile and refuge as well as the specific historical, political and social concerns of exile writers and artists. The Library understands exile as more than a historical experience and introduces it as a critical paradigm in itself. Through its close collaboration with the School of Advanced Study Institutes, it assists their call for new modes of intellectual practice and orders of knowledge. Our diverse library and archive collections allow us to newly formulate a critical agenda and support cultural identity and alterity, especially those of ethnic minorities in the literary field of printing and publishing and those that aid the preservation of ethnic minorities.

A particular strength are collections documenting the life and work of refugees from National Socialism, Fascism and beyond and the collection encourages research that reaches beyond national frameworks or disciplinary boundaries and promotes dialogue among transnational, Jewish and memory studies, diaspora, Holocaust and post-colonial studies.

French, Francophone, Spanish, Portuguese, Lusophone, and Italian collections

Senate House Library's French, Francophone, Spanish, Portuguese, Lusophone, and Italian collections are a broad ranging collection covering the fields of literature, linguistics and literary criticism with an emphasis on contemporary primary literature which support research in the integrated study of languages, cultures, and societies. They also aim to include the works of Black African and African diasporic writers whose works are redefining literature and criticism in French, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese. They cover the whole field of linguistics, literature, and literary criticism.

The collections consist of reference works, bibliographies, works on the origins of the respective languages, lexicographical works, and comparative language studies. The collection also includes works on and in many regional languages including Catalan, Basque and Occitan. The collections' Catalan holdings were augmented by the acquisition of the Gili Catalan Collection for which the library continues to collect secondary material. Catalan is by far the most significant of the smaller language holdings and through its inclusion of the Gili Catalan collection counts among the strongest in the UK. The Galician language and literature collection is also substantial and together with the Catalan collection is a testimony to the fact that both literatures previously suppressed are once again thriving.

Germanic

The Library's Germanic collections are broad ranging and transdisciplinary and cover the languages, literature and culture of the Germanic speaking peoples. While they span the Northern and Eastern Germanic languages, they retain a strong focus on the Western Germanic languages.

The collection is a unique resource for researchers in the field of all Germanic languages and has been distinguished by its interdisciplinary outlook. It consists of Germanic literature of all periods, historical-critical editions, new editions of standard texts, contemporary authors and a wealth of secondary texts, spanning a range for the study of Germanic countries, past and present.

As one of the earliest collections of the Library it consisted initially of primary texts in the original German as well as of translations until the inception of the Library of the Institute of Germanic Studies in 1950 which collected predominantly editions in the original language and allowed the Library to focus on translated works. The eventual merger of the two library collections allowed for the acquisition of works in the original language and its translations that further enriched the collection. The former Institute collections added a focus on the acquisition of secondary literature to support the Germanic archive collections to the already wide scope. Examples of these extended collection foci include Stefan George and the George Kreis to support the Gundolf Archive, exile studies to support the Centre for Cultural Memory and the Research Centre for German and Austrian Exile Studies. They also support Swiss, Austrian and Dutch literature, research into minority languages and collections of alternative and political and literary counterculture movements.

History

The Library's history collection is designed to be an extensive research collection to support historical research. As a highly interdisciplinary subject area, collecting is not restricted thematically but rather geographically and chronologically. The focus of the collection lies in the history of the United Kingdom (including the British Empire), Ireland, Europe, and the Americas including the Caribbean. Chronologically the collections span from late antiquity and the Middle Ages to modern and contemporary history. Additionally, there are specialist sections which focus on historiography, British local history, the ancient Graeco-Roman period, the Byzantine Empire, global/world history and archaeology.

The collection complements the Library's holdings in U.S. Studies, Commonwealth Studies, Latin American Studies, Book Studies and Palaeography. Holdings in the special collections and archives also supplement the history collections on the open shelves, particularly for the subjects Victorian and Edwardian culture and society, British economic and imperial history, the history of welfare and social reform, industrial history and the history of education.

Within the School of Advanced Study, the collection complements the Institute of Historical Research's (IHR) collection. In general, the Library will focus on collecting secondary sources for advanced historical study and research (i.e. Master's level and above), while the IHR's collections focus on primary sources and related areas such as historical biography and historiography. Both libraries develop their collections collaboratively, but each retains its own collection development priorities and policies. There is also thematic overlap between the holdings of the ICS Library and the Warburg Library. Influenced by the proximity of SOAS Library, coverage of Asia, Africa and the Middle East is limited to general historical works or where they relate to British and European histories of colonisation.

History of Science

The Library holds a small collection on the history of science. The aim of the collection is to provide a selection of general works, rather than in-depth coverage of the subject area. Priority is

given to works with interdisciplinary approaches, particularly where the study of science intersects with humanities research. The collections cover late antiquity to the present day, chiefly but not exclusively focused on Britain and Europe. Areas collected cover the history of mathematics, natural and environmental history, agricultural history, industrial history, the histories of technology and medicine, and biographies of scientists.

The origin of this collection lies in the University of London's previous collecting scope which included the sciences as well as the arts and humanities subjects. Over the course of the Library's history the focus of collecting policy shifted to the arts, humanities and social sciences. However, due to previous collecting activities the subject area 'history of science' emerged as a strength in the Library's holdings. This includes some of the University's special collections, such as the De Morgan Library, a rare book collection on the history of mathematics by the eponymous Victorian mathematician. Other related special collections include the Goldsmiths' Library of Economic Literature and the Durning Lawrence Collection. There are also intersections with the Library's historical collections related to the history of technology and industrialisation and its impact on society, in particular the collections originating from the Victorian and Edwardian periods.

Latin American Studies

The Library holds an extensive collection of resources on Latin America and the Caribbean, from prehistory to date, with a particular emphasis on the second half of the twentieth century onwards. The collection is interdisciplinary with specific strengths in colonial and post-colonial history, politics, anthropology, sociology, gender studies, women's activism and feminist theory, history of psychology and psychoanalysis, political and social aspects of religion, Marxist philosophy and liberation theology, literature, trade union activism, economics and environmental issues. The geographical area covered includes all the countries and territories of Central and South America as well as the islands of the Caribbean, the islands of the South Atlantic (the Falklands/Malvinas and South Georgia), the Galapagos Islands and the Antarctic territories administered by Chile and Argentina. Material in the collection is collected in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and French.

The Latin American resources include theses, pamphlets, posters, miscellaneous reports and ephemeral publications, alongside more usual formats. There is a distinctive collection of Latin America Political Pamphlets containing around 4,000 items including from political parties, guerilla groups, pressure groups and governments, predominantly in Spanish and Portuguese. Every country in the region is represented, with significant material from Bolivia, Chile and Guatemala. Some region-specific personal libraries have been donated to the collection, including those of Henry Finch (on Uruguay) and Victor Bulmer-Thomas (Central America).

There is much related material elsewhere in the Library, of particular interest being the Cartonera Publishers Collection and archives related to enslavement in the Caribbean.

Magic and the Paranormal

Material on practices, belief and traditions in magic, the paranormal and occult are collected across the Library's collections and are closely connected to the extensive and wide-ranging subjects covered by the Harry Price Library of Magical Literature. That collection established the Library's specialism in these subjects and has a well-developed collection scope and rationale which has guided additions to the Harry Price Library and to the modern collections.

Price's aim for his library was for it to serve as a research tool for the investigator or student of psychic phenomena. This is applied to acquisitions for the modern collections in the form of academic, general and popular works on the history, cultural significance, anthropological and sociological aspects of the paranormal, occult and magical.

The subject covers the extensive list of topics detailed in the short title catalogue of Harry Price's library (1929), which includes psychical research, spiritualism, occultism, mysticism, ghosts and hauntings, mediums, miracles, telepathy and extrasensory abilities, hypnotism, mesmerism, alleged abnormal photography, fortune telling and divination, esotericism, legerdemain, illusions, stage magic and card tricks, astrology, witchcraft, faith healing, all aspects of magic, satanism and demonology, "quacks", confidence tricksters and fakery. Coverage has also expanded to include developing subjects of research and academic interest including conspiracy theories, parapsychology, counterculture, psychedelia and mind-altering substances, contemporary practices in magic and paganism, scepticism, UFOs and cryptozoology. Several academic series in the subject are acquired, for example Oxford Studies in Western Esotericism and Palgrave Historical Studies in Witchcraft and Magic. Material is collected from a range of viewpoints.

Collecting in this area complements holdings in psychology, arts and culture, anthropology, folklore and supernatural and gothic literature.

Manuscript Studies and Palaeography

The palaeography and manuscript studies collection covers all aspects of the production, use and study of western manuscript traditions. The collection supports advanced research, teaching and skills training across the University of London.

The collection specialises in material on palaeography in its strict sense of the study of ancient handwriting in order to read, date and localise texts as well as covering the broader subject of manuscript studies. The collection covers subjects including codicology, the production of manuscripts, scribal practices, illustration and illumination, medieval reading, collecting and libraries, the tradition and transmission of texts, including digitised manuscripts, cataloguing, documenting, and preserving manuscripts and related disciplines of diplomatic and sigillography.

It principally covers western Europe and manuscripts in Latin hands in Latin and vernacular languages, but with significant coverage of the Hellenic world and some material on the Near East.

Strengths of the collection include facsimiles of manuscripts from the medieval period and primarily from Western Europe with particular emphasis on early manuscripts produced or held in the British Isles and catalogues of medieval European manuscripts from institutions, archives and private collections across the world.

The collection is predominantly made up of print publications including pamphlets, offprints and specialist journals. It includes a discrete collection of rare and early books in Special Collections, papers of palaeographers and collections of medieval manuscripts, fragments and documents.

The collection represents a particular research strength of the Library, as well as being closely connected to the collections in history, literature and art history. It strives to be comprehensive as far as is practical in research monographs and catalogues of manuscripts, and the availability of this material on open access and classified together as a distinct collection is rare and probably not replicated on the same scale elsewhere in the UK.

Music

The Library's music collections consist of a vast range of books on music, scores and e-resources which support the study of music from the early modern period to the present and is one of the Library's oldest collections.

It consists of printed and manuscript music, recordings, concert programmes, as well as books and journals on all aspects of research into music. Its expansive scope of books on music, scores and journals support most aspects of music studies with material from the 15th century to the present day. It covers primarily the music of Europe and the Americas (North and South) from earliest times to the present with smaller sections on the music of Africa and Asia, ethnomusicology, film

music, popular music and various forms of dance and performance. It is noted for its strong foreign language component. The scores collection is especially strong in collected editions, historical sets and facsimile music manuscripts in addition to the substantial holdings of individual loanable works. One of its greatest strengths is the set of collected score editions and the significant set of facsimiles and first editions of music scores (1000+) dating back centuries. Also within the collection are significant libraries such as the Plainsong and Medieval Song Society, and the Tudor Church Music collection. The George Collection of piano music holds over 3,500 items which includes thousands of compositions (1830s-1950s) for solo piano, piano duo, piano 4-hands and many idiosyncratic piano transcriptions. In addition, the collection contains a significant corpus of unique sheet music covers by Russian composers.

Philosophy

The collection is recognised as a centre of excellence for general philosophy in the London area and serves as the main library for the Institute of Philosophy.

The collection includes all aspects of philosophy, with material dating from the early 18th century, and is particularly strong in modern philosophy, especially works by and about individual philosophers, British, American (including Latin American), and Continental. The holdings are mainly in English, but the main Western European languages are also represented, particularly French and German, in the complete philosophical works of various authors. Included is also material on the philosophy of specific subjects, for example, philosophy of science, political philosophy, sociological theories, or the intellectual history of countries in Latin America and the Commonwealth. Feminist philosophy, African and indigenous philosophies, and environmental philosophy are key areas of collecting interest. There are many relevant holdings in Special Collections, of special note being the De Morgan Library.

Holdings in religious studies and theology can be found across many of the Library's collections in history, manuscript studies, philosophy, classics, and Special Collections. Church history and Byzantine studies are special strengths of the history collection. Doctrinal and practical theology and material related to the Bible are generally excluded as similar and more comprehensive material is available at the Heythrop College Library. Complementary collections in early Christianity, Reformation, heresy and hagiography are held at the Warburg Library, and the IHR also has substantial holdings. Works on Judaism, Islam and Buddhism are also excluded, however monographs in comparative religion are occasionally acquired. Complementary collections in early Christianity, Reformation, heresy and hagiography are held at the Warburg Library, and the Institute of Historical Research also has substantial holdings.

Psychology

The collection focuses on the social, cultural and political aspects of psychology and includes much material that is interdisciplinary in nature. The preponderant language of the collection is English. Geographic coverage is mainly Anglo-American and Western European, however growing emphasis is being placed on research originating elsewhere, for example liberation psychology in Latin America, African and indigenous psychologies.

The history and philosophy of psychology, which also includes the history of emotions, is one of the main strengths of the collection, aiming to offer a complete bibliography for research, with titles in English and the main European languages. Holdings in psychoanalysis are also significant, supporting multi-disciplinary research. Feminist psychology, environmental & conservation psychology, and political psychology are key areas of collecting interest, relating to holdings in philosophy, history and the social sciences.

Another area of particular interest in the collection is parapsychology, which has extensive related holdings in Special Collections - the Harry Price Library of Magical Literature, Eric Dingwall Papers and Robert Saudeck Papers.

Neuroscience and cognitive science, psychiatry, clinical and applied psychology, psychotherapy, child psychology, educational psychology, occupational psychology, forensic psychology and mental health are collected sparingly only where they present historical perspectives or support other subject collections. Undergraduate textbooks are excluded.

The collection also contains ephemeral publications, reports and conference proceedings.

Social Sciences (includes Economics, Politics, Sociology, Law, Education and elements of Geography)

Social Sciences holdings in the Library comprise of three large subject collections – sociology, politics and economics – and several smaller collections including education, law, geography and health studies.

The **sociology collection** covers all areas of social organisation, including social welfare, housing, women, children, philanthropy, slavery, immigration, race and class. Social change and political ideas based in systems like socialism, communism, anarchism, internationalism and fascism, are widely collected. Social ethnology, ethnography, and anthropogeography are also represented. Gender studies is a major strength. There is a wealth of material relating to queer culture and LGBT+ activism, closely related to other significant holdings in literature, cultural studies and Special Collections (of note being the Heisler Collection). Women's studies is another major strength, covering the whole range of topics from the suffrage movement, feminism, systems of privilege and oppression, and relationships between power and gender. There are many works by or about famous and lesser-known individual women and women's groups. Works on statistics are generally excluded unless they are part of broader works on research methodology for sociological inquiry.

The **politics collection** is particularly strong in the history of left-wing, alternative and radical political movements, and also in political philosophy and the history of political thought. It also includes works about government, political systems and contemporary politics. General world politics, European Union, international relations, terrorism, development and conflict are covered only selectively. Excluded are works about political institutions, public administration and local government. A substantial proportion of the material is integrated within the history collection and the area studies collections.

The **economics collection** focusses on economic and industrial history in a broad sense and is strongly related to holdings in the Goldsmiths Library of Economic Literature and the history collection. The core strengths are the history and development of the working-class movement, labour and trade unions, unemployment, and the history of economic thought. Globalisation and development economics are collected selectively. Exclusions include all works on economic theory, business and finance.

The **education and law collections** are not actively being developed but titles are added occasionally if they relate to certain topics: the history of education with a particular emphasis on women's education and the University of London's role in the establishment of higher education institutions in other countries; the role and contribution of women in the development of the legal system.

Similarly, new titles are purchased for the geography collection only in a select number of topics, including historical geography, human and cultural geography.

The **health studies collection** is quite varied and includes notable holdings on the history of AIDS and other epidemics, mental health and the history of the NHS. The collection is only being added to sparingly if titles relate to the history of women's health or complement the psychology, history of science and sociology collections.

The geographic scope of the social science holdings is primarily British and European, but material is also purchased when it relates to the Latin American and Commonwealth Collections. Most of the material is in English. The interdisciplinary emphasis is very strong, both in the material being collected as well as in the relationship with other holdings in the Library.

United States Studies

The United States studies collection provides broad coverage of the history, literature, institutions, and culture of the United States of America from c1800 to the present day. The print collection is a combination of books donated from the United States Information Service at the United States Embassy in London, works from the Institute of United States Studies, and titles collected by the Library. The collection is predominantly in English.

The subject range is interdisciplinary across the arts, humanities, and social sciences, and includes art history, Native and African American studies, anthropology, politics, economics, sociology, film and religion. The collection is particularly strong in holdings of history and literature. In the field of literature, there is a good coverage of definitive and collected editions, both classic and modern, and of major and minor writers, plus literary criticism of all periods. Subject and author bibliographies are well represented. American history is covered from the period of early exploration to the present day and includes diplomatic, political, social, intellectual and military history, and noteworthy material on enslavement. There are also extensive holdings of statesmen's papers, long runs of series such as Foreign Relations of the United States, and other printed document collections.

Government publications and legal material are not collected, and only a small amount of general material on Native American languages, archaeology, and education is collected as these subjects are covered by other libraries in the vicinity of Senate House.

In Special Collections there are relevant archives related to the history of the USA as well as important holdings of rare and special printed material.