

De-Selection at Hollis F. Price Library

What is De-Selection?

The Hollis F. Price Library strives to keep abreast of new publications and considers many for our collection. We must continually assess our current holdings for ongoing relevance and usefulness. Research needs change, new information is discovered, books become worn and damaged, and physical shelf space is finite. Removal of old materials keeps our collection fresh, relevant, and accurate for our college community.

De-Selection is a difficult but necessary process for all libraries; it can be emotional for some book lovers. The Hollis F. Price Library encourages feedback from the campus community in this process. If you see an item being de-selected, and you feel it may be useful, please discuss its removal with a member of our library staff.

Criteria for De-Selection:

1. Materials that have not been used since 1990 and were added to the collection before 2000.
2. Materials with inaccurate, misleading, or offensive information and/or terminology.
3. Severely damaged or worn-out materials.
 - a. If there were 5 uses or more since 1990, a damaged item will be replaced.
 - b. If replacement costs more than \$50, repairs will be made instead.
4. Media in outdated formats (i.e., VHS, cassettes, etc.)
5. Duplicates are not retained 10 years past the publication dates unless use exceeds 5 checkouts per copy.
 - a. Taking condition into account, hardback books will be retained over paperback versions.
6. Superseded editions. When new editions are purchased, the superseded editions will be de-selected.
 - a. If the superseded edition is still accurate and relevant AND has a history of 5 uses in the past 10 years, it will be retained.
 - b. Superseded reference materials may be retained longer at the discretion of the Library Director.
7. Computer and technology-related materials more than 10 years old
8. Science materials published before 2000 with fewer than 5 uses
9. Sweeney Collection items will be retained regardless of use history

- a. Duplicate Sweeney volumes will be retained in the collection until 10 years past the publication date.
 - b. Ten years after the publication date, one copy of each duplicate Sweeney Collection item will be retained and stored offsite.
 - c. Further duplications will not be retained.
10. Print journals and periodicals that are available electronically

If resources meet these criteria, they will be considered for de-selection. Based on curricular needs, provenance, condition, rarity, cost, or importance, certain items may be retained.

Process

When items for de-selection are identified, a monthly de-selection list will be compiled, and the list will be available on the library's webpage for 30 days. During this time, faculty, students, and other members of the LOC family time are encouraged to review the list and provide feedback. We will take your response into consideration and let you know the justification for our decision.