

**Executive Summary**  
**Psychology Collection Assessment**  
 Submitted by Paula Barnett-Ellis  
 November 1, 2021

**INTRODUCTION**

The Psychology collection is adequate to support the courses taught in the Bachelor’s and Master’s degree programs, as well as the course taught in the Psychology minors. The Psychology Collection complements and supports study in other disciplines, including social work, counseling, nursing and allied health, educational psychology, social psychology, and biology. Complete conspectus sheets and checklists are available upon request for a more detailed examination of the collection.

**HOLDINGS**

The Psychology collection contains **9,823** titles in BF, and **5,185** in RC call number ranges 321-571, including **7,156** e-books. Total monograph expenditures for Psychology from FY 2017/18 to FY 2020/21 were **\$47,319.68** with 543 new titles added. These newer additions comprise 3.6% of the current Psychology collection. Since the last collection assessment, books in the BF call number area have been relocated to the 9<sup>th</sup> floor, which also houses the clinical psychology collection in RC.

These numbers represent a snapshot of the collection, as titles are continually being added and withdrawn for collection maintenance and growth.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>
BF 1-172	Psychology	1,315
BF 173-204	Major Themes and Systems	819
BF 207-724	Individual Psychology	6,439
BF 725-990	Special Aspects	247
BF 1001-1389	Parapsychology	463
BF 1404-2055	Occult Sciences	540
RC 321-429	Neurosciences, Neurology	772
RC 435-571	Psychiatry	4,413
<b>Total</b>		<b>15,008</b>

**Monograph Expenditures for Psychology**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2017/18	\$19,067.31
2018/19	\$12,411.51
2019/20	\$9,108.95
2020/21*	\$6,731.91
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$47,319.68</b>

\*2020/21 book expenditures are still ongoing

## **PERIODICALS AND SERIALS**

The Library has access to full-text journals available throughout the Library databases. There are approximately 1,364 journals in Psychology and related subjects available electronically through database subscriptions, which can be found in EBSCO's Publication Finder at <http://bit.ly/2zO6DjD>. The Serials expenditures in Psychology for both print and electronic subscriptions and standing orders average **\$33,168.33** from FY 2017/18 to FY 2020/21 (see table below.)

### **Serial Expenditures for Psychology**

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<b>Total</b>	<b>\$132,673.32</b>

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Expenditures for serials have migrated away from the individual subscription model to the aggregator database model. Dollar amounts spent on aggregator databases cannot be subdivided into subject categories. In 2019/20 aggregator databases totaled \$306,201.77, which came from the general fund. A more accurate reporting of Library subject support for serials is represented in the 'Browse by Discipline' listings in Publication Finder: <https://bit.ly/3qy4i5t>.

## **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 Psychology, the Library's electronic collection in this subject is adequate to support the curriculum.

A complete list of all the Library's databases is 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 a list of all Psychology related databases at <https://libguides.jsu.edu/az.php?s=26278>. At the time of this assessment, there are 18 databases specific to Psychology, while health, science, and general databases provide additional support for courses. Additionally, the Psychology subject guide (<http://libguides.jsu.edu/Psychology>), maintained by the subject specialist, provides a list of and access to the resources specifically for this subject.

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

## Psychology Collection Assessment

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November 1, 2021

### INTRODUCTION

The Psychology collection is central to the University curriculum, since it supports study for degree programs in Psychology and Applied Behavior Analysis at the Bachelor's and Master's levels offered by the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. The collection also supports a minor in Psychology. The Psychology collection is adequate to support the courses taught in the Bachelor's and Master's programs. Complete conspectus sheets and checklists are available upon request for a more detailed examination of the collection.

### HOLDINGS

The Psychology collection contains **9,823** titles in BF, and **5,185** in RC call number ranges 321-571, including **7,156** e-books. Total monograph expenditures for Psychology from FY 2017/18 to FY 2020/21 were **\$47,319.68** with 543 new titles added. These newer additions comprise 3.6% of the current Psychology collection. Since the last collection assessment, books in the BF call number area have been relocated to the 9<sup>th</sup> floor, which also houses the clinical psychology collection in RC.

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## **SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPORT**

Psychology subject areas also extend beyond the boundaries of the disciplines. Holdings in the related subject collections of social work, counseling, nursing and allied health, educational psychology, social psychology, and biology provide additional support to the Psychology Collection.

## **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.

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

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Added to BF, RC Collections</b>	<b>GOBI New Titles Report<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Percentage</b>
2017/18	194	3,145	6%
2018/19	148	2,989	5%
2019/20	90	2,513	4%
2020/21	111	**	
<b>Total</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>8,647</b>	

**\*Note:** The relatively low numbers added when compared to the new title counts results from the inclusion of a large number of titles outside the scope of this assessment. There is no breakdown in the YBP figures into appropriate Library of Congress classifications. The YBP numbers encompass the entire BF and RC classes, not only the ranges in this assessment

\*\*There was not a report available for the 2020/21 fiscal year at the time of this assessment.

## **CHECKLIST SUMMARIES**

Bibliographies including *Choice's Outstanding Academic Titles (OATs)*, *Doody's Core Titles in the Health Sciences*, 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 Psychology.

<b><i>Choice's Outstanding Academic Titles 2018-2020: Psychology</i></b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Collected</b>	<b>Listed</b>	<b>Percent Held</b>
2020	10	13	77%
2019	6	9	67%
2018	11	13	85%
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>77%</b>

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<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))

<b>Doody's Core Titles in the Health Sciences 2021</b>			
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Collected</b>	<b>Listed</b>	<b>Percent Held</b>
Psychiatry	12	39	31%
Neuroscience	6	15	40%
Clinical Psychology	10	30	33%
Nursing-Psychiatric	11	23	48%
<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>36%</b>

<b>Doody's Core Titles in the Health Sciences 2020</b>			
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Collected</b>	<b>Listed</b>	<b>Percent Held</b>
Psychiatry	13	41	32%
Neuroscience	6	13	46%
Clinical Psychology	13	26	50%
Nursing-Psychiatric	15	28	54%
<b>Total</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>44%</b>

<b>Doody's Core Titles in the Health Sciences 2019</b>			
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Collected</b>	<b>Listed</b>	<b>Percent Held</b>
Psychiatry	13	42	31%
Neuroscience	4	9	44%
Clinical Psychology	10	27	37%
Nursing-Psychiatric	16	29	55%
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>40%</b>

<b>Doody's Core Titles in the Health Sciences 2018</b>			
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Collected</b>	<b>Listed</b>	<b>Percent Held</b>
Psychiatry	13	39	33%
Neuroscience	4	11	36%
Clinical Psychology	10	27	37%
Nursing-Psychiatric	14	26	54%
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>40%</b>

<b>American Journal of Nursing Books of the Year: Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Collected</b>	<b>Listed</b>	<b>Percent Held</b>
2020	1	3	33%
2019	1	2	50%
2018	1	3	33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>38%</b>

<b>Resources for College Libraries 2018-2021</b>			
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Collected</b>	<b>Listed</b>	<b>Percentage Held</b>
Psychology (BF)	57	85	67%
Neurosciences/Psychiatry (RC 321-571)	28	54	52%
<b>Total</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>61%</b>

<b>American Reference Books Annual* 2018-2019: Psychology, Parapsychology and Occultism</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Collected</b>	<b>Listed</b>	<b>Percentage Held</b>
2019	5	12	42%
2018	8	10	80%
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>59%</b>

\*ARBA subscription ceased in 2019

### **WITHDRAWALS**

As currency of information is very important in the Psychology 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 BF and R classifications.\*

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>BF Titles Withdrawn</b>	<b>R Titles Withdrawn</b>	<b>Total</b>
2018/19	45	271	316
2019/20	398	520	918
2020/21	88	365	453
<b>Total</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>1,156</b>	<b>1,687</b>

\*Withdrawals in R classification are not broken down to RC level

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The following indexes and bibliographies were checked against the Library's holdings for serial titles pertaining to Psychology revealing the corresponding percentages:

<b>SCImago Journal Rank (SJR) Journal Titles : Psychology (Top 100 titles)</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Collected</b>	<b>Listed</b>	<b>Percent Held</b>
2020	93	100	93%
<b>Total</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>93%</b>

<b>Library Journal Top 20 Best-Selling Psychology Titles Academic Best Sellers</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Collected</b>	<b>Listed</b>	<b>Percent Held</b>
2019	13	20	65%
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>65%</b>

### **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 Psychology, the Library's electronic collection in this subject is adequate to support the curriculum.

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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 Psychology collection is more than adequate to support the curriculum. Of note on the conspectus worksheet are strong holdings in the subject areas of: Child Psychology, Applied Psychology, Neurosciences and Psychiatry.

A review of the journal holdings reveals that the Psychology collection, and supporting collections in nursing and allied health, education psychology, social psychology, and biology are adequate to support the curriculum.

**Weaknesses:**

Total holdings, conspectus evaluations, and checklist comparisons indicate that some areas still need development. These are: Professional Issues-Licensure/Certification, Professional Issues-Economic of Practice, Psychology of Nations, National Characteristics, and Psychology of Special Groups. In addition, some holdings in Psychiatric Nursing are outdated and need to be replaced when budgets allow.

**Recommendations:**

The growth rate of the Psychology Collection should be maintained in order to continue providing support for the undergraduate and graduate programs in Psychology. The monograph collection should be generally increased, based on budget, with a strong focus on core and outstanding titles. The periodical collection available from electronic databases is substantial and should be maintained. The weak subject areas (noted above) should also be addressed in future additions to the collection.