

Collection Subject Statement: International Affairs & Global Studies

Last Reviewed: February 2025

The International Affairs & Global Studies collections at the University of Pittsburgh Library System (ULS) support the research and teaching needs of the University of Pittsburgh School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA), as well as the interdisciplinary study of globalization across the University through the Global Studies Center. SPIA offers four master's degrees, as well as a doctoral program and joint degree programs with the Schools of Law, Business, Public Health, Social Work, Information Sciences, and more. The Global Studies Center promotes critical thinking and practical engagement with the world through three interdisciplinary certificates and a bachelor's degree in International and Areas Studies. The collections support several Centers, Institutes, and Initiatives:

- The Matthew B. Ridgway Center for International Security Studies
- The Ford Institute for Human Security
- The Innovation Clinic
- Johnson Institute for Responsible Leadership
- Center for Disaster Management

Purpose

The purpose of the collections is to support the academic, research, and educational needs of students, faculty, and researchers within international affairs and global studies. Library materials are intended to foster the study of crime and criminal justice; critical world ecologies; development; disaster management; economics; environment and natural resources; foreign policy; globalization; health and well-being; human rights; human security; intelligence studies; international organizations; international and national security; non-governmental and non-profit organizations; peacekeeping; political economy; population studies; public administration; public policy; regional cooperation and planning; sustainable development; terrorism and piracy; and urban planning. The collections aim to enhance scholarly inquiry, critical thinking, and transnational approaches that contribute to the advancement of knowledge in international affairs and global studies, as well as their related fields.

Audience

The primary audience for the collections includes undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and academic researchers from the diverse subfields within international affairs and global studies. The collections also serve professionals and practitioners in fields such as business, economics, and law. The collections support cross-disciplinary research and provide access to materials that intersect with other areas such as Areas Studies; Business; Economics; Education; Engineering; History; Law; Political Science; Social Work; and Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies.

Guiding Principles and Areas of Focus

The materials in the International Affairs & Global Studies collections are intended to represent diverse perspectives, populations, and methodologies, promoting a global and transnational understanding. In addition to the curriculum, the research areas of faculty and graduate students directly influence the strategy for the collections. Research in International Affairs & Global Studies emphasizes Latin America, Europe, Asia (South, Southeast, and Central), and the Middle East. Innovations in the fields of public policy, international relations, and development encompass cultural dynamics, conflict and security studies, environmental policy, and human rights.

Scope

The collection is almost exclusively English language. Items in other languages may be purchased upon request or added if received as donations. Certain government and statistical publications may be available only in the original language. The collection covers the entire world with emphases on the United States and/or developing countries depending upon the subject. Monograph; conference proceedings; essay collections; reports of various types from intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations; journals (preferably electronic format); and relevant statistical data (electronic format if available and affordable) are collected. Current publications are targeted with an emphasis on current information and data. Retrospective items and historical information will occasionally be purchased, when recommended or requested.

Library of Congress Classification

The International Affairs & Global Studies collections primarily focus on materials classified under the following:

- HB 189 - Economics of war
- HB 848 - Population Studies
- HC 59 - Economic Development
- HC 60 - International aid and assistance (foreign aid, specifically to developing nations)
- HC 79 - Economic History and Conditions
- HD 62 - Nonprofit corporations
- HD 62 - Management by region or country
- HD 72 - Economic development
- HD 75 - Environmental sustainability and conservation
- HD 139 - Land use
- HD 1401 - Agriculture
- HD 42 - Nonprofit organizations
- HD 1691 - Water resources
- HD 69 - Industrial cooperation
- HF 1359 - International economic relations
- HF 1450 - International economic integration. Globalization
- HT 166 - City planning and renewal
- HT 101 - Urban economics
- HT 391 - Regional planning

- HV 6001 - Criminal justice administration
- HV 551 - Emergency management
- HV 553 - Disaster relief
- HV 555 - Natural disasters (including recovery)
- HV 6431 - Terrorism
- JF 1 - Public Administration
- JZ 1 - International Relations
- JZ 4900 - International organizations and associations
- JZ 5580 - Coercion, Armed Conflict, Humanitarian Aspects, Neutrality
- U 1 - Military Science
- UB 2500 - Intelligence. Security

Connections & Collaborations

The ULS collaborates with other institutions and consortia to acquire specialized materials that support research, teaching, and learning in the subjects of International Affairs & Global Studies, particularly in areas where shared resources improve accessibility to rare or costly materials. Regionally and nationally, the ULS participates in several consortia for collection development (EAST, Hathi Trust, CRL) and resource sharing (PALCI EZBorrow, OCLC Interlibrary Loan, RapidILL) that shape strategy for the International Affairs & Global Studies collections. Within the University, the intersection of GSPIA and Global Studies with other departments and disciplines informs the development and scope of the collections.

Subject Experts

- ULS SPIA Team (ULS-SPIARef@pitt.edu)
- Global Studies: Carrie Donovan (cdonovan@pitt.edu)

Sources of Information

<https://www.spia.pitt.edu/>

<https://www.ucis.pitt.edu/global/home>