

Collection Subject Statement: Sociology

Last Reviewed: April 2025

The Sociology collections at the University of Pittsburgh University Library System (ULS) can be found at multiple locations including Hanley Library, Hillman Library, Millstein Library, Owen Library, and Thomas Blvd Library.

Purpose and Audiences

The University offers undergraduate study in Sociology at the Bradford, Greensburg, Johnstown, and Pittsburgh campuses, and graduate study at the Pittsburgh campus. The Sociology collections support the learning, teaching, and research needs of students and faculty in the respective departments, providing cross-disciplinary research and access to materials that intersect with other areas such as Criminal Justice, Gender Studies, Political Science, Psychology, and Social Work.

Guiding Principles and Areas of Focus

The Sociology collections are intended to represent diverse perspectives, populations, and methodologies, promoting a comprehensive understanding of the discipline that ranges from the micro (interpersonal) level to the macro (global) level of societies at large. The materials cover different social, economic, political, and religious topics, including state repression of social movements, labor organizing, collection actions in prisons, democratic movements, sexual minority movements, Anti-Semitic movements, social inequalities and the social movements and global processes that challenge, sustain, or create these inequalities. In addition to the curriculum, the research and creative activity of the faculty and graduate students influence the strategy of the collections. New acquisitions in print and electronic format are informed by thoughtful review, selected based on their academic quality and contributions to the field of Sociology, with additional items acquired upon request for research and teaching purposes.

Scope

Comprehensive resources on theory, research, and practice in the form of scholarly monographs are prioritized. While we are format agnostic, for English-language books in the sciences and social sciences we may consider e-formats first. Priority is given to current publications. Older imprints are collected selectively, usually as replacements for classic works or upon request. Textbooks and handbooks are acquired selectively or upon request. The collections include a wide selection of peer-reviewed journals and trade publications in both print and electronic formats, discoverable through databases.

The primary geographic focus for the collections is on materials from the United States. However, the library also strives to maintain resources from diverse global perspectives and studies. The majority of the Sociology collections are in English; however, materials in other languages are selectively acquired to support interdisciplinary research and study.

Library of Congress Classification

G (Geography. Anthropology. Recreation)

- **GE 195-199** Environmentalism. Green movement
- **GN 301-674** Ethnology. Social and cultural anthropology
- **GT** Manners and customs

H (Social Sciences)

- **HB 846-846.8** Welfare theory
- **HB 848-3697** Demography. Population. Vital events
- **HC 10-1085** Economic history and conditions
- **HD 60-60.5** Social responsibility of business
- **HD 101-1395.5** Land use
- **HD 2951-3575** Cooperation. Cooperative societies
- **HD 4801-8943** Labor. Work. Working class
- **HF 1-6182** Commerce
- **HG 1-9999** Finance
- **HJ 9-9940** Public finance
- **HM 1-1281** Sociology
- **HN:** Social history and conditions. Social problems. Social reform
- **HQ 1-2044:** The Family. Marriage. Women
- **HS 1-3371** Societies: secret, benevolent, etc.
- **HT 51-1595** Communities. Classes. Races
- **HV 1-9960** Social pathology. Social and public welfare. Criminology
- **HX 1-970.7** Socialism. Communism. Anarchism
- **HT 251-265:** Mental and moral life
- **HV 547:** Self-help groups
- **HV 1551-3024:** People with disabilities Including blind, deaf, people with physical and mental disabilities
- **HV 6035-6197:** Criminal anthropology Including criminal types, criminal psychology, prison psychology, causes of crime

J (Political Science)

- **JV 10-19** Societies
- **JZ 4841-4848** Political non-governmental organizations. NGOs
- **JZ 5514-5526** Societies, associations, academies, institutes, etc., for peace promotion, research and education

K (Law)

- **K 366-380** Sociology of law. Sociological jurisprudence
- **K 3700-3705** Control of social activities
- **KB 1468-1550** Social laws and legislation. Welfare. Charities

L (Education)

- **LC 65-245** Social aspects of education
- **LJ 3-165** Student fraternities and societies, United States

M (Music)

- **ML 3916-3918** Social and political aspects of music

N (Fine Arts)

- **N 8700-9165** Art and the state. Public art

R (Medicine)

- **RA 418-418.5** Medicine and society. Social medicine. Medical sociology

U (Military Science)

- **U 21-22.3** War. Philosophy. Military sociology

Connections & Collaborations

The ULS collaborates with other institutions and consortia to acquire specialized materials that support research, teaching, and learning in the subject of Sociology, 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 Sociology collections.

Subject Experts

- Bradford contact: Catherine Baldwin (cab137@pitt.edu)
- Greensburg contact: Kelly Safin (kelly.safin@pitt.edu)
- Johnstown contact: David Kupas (dmk24@pitt.edu)
- Pittsburgh contact: Aimee Jenkins (aimees@pitt.edu)

Sources of Information

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

<https://www.greensburg.pitt.edu/academics/minors-certificates/sociology>

<https://www.johnstown.pitt.edu/academics/majors-programs/social-sciences/sociology>

<https://www.upb.pitt.edu/academics/sociology-ba>