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# Chemistry Collection Development Policy

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**Chemistry Collection Development Policy**
University Libraries, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Jacquelyn Petzold, Chemistry Liaison Librarian, November 2009
Approved: CDC December 2, 2009

## I. GENERAL ACADEMIC PROGRAM INFORMATION

### Collection Overview

The chemistry collection exists to support the teaching, research, and service endeavors of the Department of Chemistry and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln community. The public may benefit from the chemistry collection, although specific materials are not collected to meet their needs. Chemistry-related materials not available in the library's collection are generally readily available through Interlibrary Loan. The collection is focused on QD Library of Congress call number range, although the heavily interdisciplinary nature of scientific study necessitates some overlap with other Q call number ranges, R, S, T, and other areas.

### Department of Chemistry Overview

The UNL Department of Chemistry was founded in 1882 as the first graduate program of any public institution west of the Mississippi River. In its early years, the Department of Chemistry included notable women such as Rachel A. Lloyd, the first woman in the world to become a chemistry professor (1887), and Rosa Bouton, the first woman to receive a graduate degree west of the Mississippi (1893). Rosa Bouton eventually went on to establish the School of Domestic Science at UNL, which ultimately became the College of Human Resources and Family Sciences. In addition, Gilbert Newton Lewis, inventor of the Lewis dot model for representation of atoms and bonding, attended UNL as an undergraduate chemistry major, and Nobel Laureate Donald Cram received a master's degree from the UNL Department of Chemistry in 1987. The Department has a long history of excellence, as evidenced by the fact that half of the individuals taking part in one of the Chemistry Department's named lectureships have received Nobel prizes in Chemistry.

Currently, the Department of Chemistry at UNL is part of the College of Arts and Sciences. In Fall 2008, the Department reported 22 tenured or track-track faculty members. Adjunct instructors and other non-tenure-leading faculty members also play an important role. The Department has been housed in Hamilton Hall since 1970. However, the research opportunities of individuals affiliated with the Department of Chemistry are enhanced by a wide variety of facilities and collaborative relationships including the Research Instrumentation Facility, the Undergraduate Instrumentation Center, the Nebraska Center for Mass Spectrometry, the Redox Biology Center, the Nebraska Center for Materials and Nanocscience, and the NCMN Crystallography Central Facility. Research interests of the faculty and students are quite varied. They include biochemical separation, bioinformatics, biomineralization, calorimetry, chemical sensor design, drug design, electrochemistry, enzyme purification and synthesis, fluorine chemistry, fuel cells, fungal signaling, inorganic synthesis, materials chemistry, natural products,

organic magnets, polymer chemistry, quantum chemistry, Raman spectroscopy, solid state chemistry, surface science, thermodynamics, and many other areas.

Library users affiliated with the Department of Chemistry may have interests that overlap with other areas of study covered by separate collection development policies. These disciplines include agronomy, biochemistry, biological systems engineering, computer science, engineering, food sciences, mathematics, natural resources, nutrition, and physics.

### Degrees Offered

The Department of Chemistry at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln offers several different degree programs as well as a minor option for undergraduate and graduate students. In the fall semester of 2008, the Department of Chemistry reported 65 undergraduates working toward a BS, 32 undergraduates working toward a BA, 10 graduate students working toward an MS, and 89 graduate students working toward a PhD.

**Bachelor of Science (BS)/Bachelor of Arts (BA)** – Undergraduate chemistry majors are required to take 43-46 hours of chemistry as well as specified ancillary courses in mathematics and physics.

**Master of Science (MS)** – Graduate students admitted to the Department of Chemistry can opt to complete a master of science degree after consulting with a faculty adviser.

**Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)** – The chemistry graduate program operates under the "Research First" philosophy which allows first-year graduate students to take a reduced course load while focusing heavily on research. Students then select the rest of their coursework under the guidance of their faculty advisors. The graduate program consists of the traditional divisions of chemistry including analytical chemistry, biochemistry/biophysical chemistry, inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry, and physical chemistry, as well as several interdisciplinary areas such as materials chemistry, biotechnology, and environmental toxicology.

## II. GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE

For materials with a geographic focus, specific attention is given to topics relating to Nebraska and the Great Plains region. However, no geographical region is excluded.

## III. CHRONOLOGICAL COVERAGE

Emphasis is on current research, although history of science titles and other historical treatments are also collected as funding allows.

## IV. IMPRINT DATE

Priority is given to works that have been published in the past five years. Other materials may be acquired selectively when gaps in the collection are identified.

## V. FORMAT

Academic monographs, serials, databases, and reference works form the core of the biological sciences collection with an increasing tendency toward electronic materials. Materials in other formats are acquired when appropriate. Textbooks are acquired minimally, especially at the lower undergraduate level.

## VI. LANGUAGE

English is the primary language collected, although materials in other languages may be acquired on a limited basis to fulfill patron requests. Translations into English are preferred.

## VII. CLASSIFICATION AND INTENSITY LEVEL

### Library Collections

### Materials Selected with Funds Designated for Chemistry

*The following list contains Library of Congress call number ranges, subject, and corresponding collection intensity levels for topics related to Chemistry:*

| | |
|---|---|
| QD 1-65 | General chemistry including alchemy – STUDY |
| QD 71-142 | Analytical chemistry – RESEARCH |
| QD 146-197 | Inorganic chemistry – RESEARCH |
| QD 241-441 | Organic chemistry – RESEARCH |
| QD 450-801 | Physical and theoretical chemistry – RESEARCH |
| QD 901-999 | Crystallography – RESEARCH |