

The Cal Poly Pomona Library Collection

To address comments we frequently hear from Cal Poly Pomona faculty...

1. The library does not have a comprehensive collection.

This is True. We do not have a comprehensive collection like you would find at UCLA, Princeton, or other doctorate granting institutions. That is, you cannot expect to find a lot of data on any possible subject you have an interest in. For example; neither nursing nor the Italian language are taught at Cal Poly Pomona. Nor do we have a collection that would support faculty scholarship (primary source documents, research in other languages, etc.). CSU libraries have never been funded at a level to support research collections. **However:**

- A. We do have a collection focused on our undergraduate curriculum. You will find a wide range of materials on topics related to the curriculum.
- B. Our online article and report databases provide the full text of periodical or serial literature beyond what would have been available a generation ago.
- C. We have access to books at some 70 other libraries you can immediately retrieve through our online catalog *Link+* feature. Moreover through Document Delivery you have access to books and articles from another 2,000 libraries. This access is also “automated” through our online systems *Find It!* link. We can therefore support your research or other interests.

2. The library does not have the particular title or service I need for my teaching or research.

This is, or might be, true. There are many titles and data services that we do not own or subscribe to. Few libraries anywhere will have all or near all that are available. **However:**

- A. We might have the information or data you ask for in a different title or service.
- B. We might have the information or data you ask for in a different format. For example, you ask for an online service. We don’t have it but we do have the paper version.
- C. And, of course, we have access to the holdings of other libraries.

3. I know of some important titles or periodical subscriptions in my field that are “classics” or have just been published and I have often found that the library doesn’t have these.

This is, or might be, true. Our Subject Librarians review the publishing media to acquire titles and subscriptions that directly support the curriculum. We consider these critically including the use of reviews if available. We select what we believe are the highest quality titles in our

subject areas and we monitor the use of titles and subscriptions we do acquire. We might make some different choices of titles than a faculty member would. **However:**

Tell us what you want. We attempt to honor faculty requests for resources that support our curriculum and fit within our budget. We can usually purchase books you request. Requests for new journals, serials, or databases have to be carefully evaluated because of the ongoing cost commitment. Please contact your department's [Subject Librarian](#) at any time with your questions or to discuss the Library collection in your field.

Collection Management Team
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