Collection Development Policy – Computer Science

01/15/07 recorded (Bill Jacobs)
08/17/19 revised (James Sobczak)

Current Subject Liaison:
James Sobczak
STEM Librarian
jsobczak@miami.edu
305-284-4059

Recommended Citation
Purpose
The purpose of the collection is to support teaching, general study, and research in computer science from undergraduate level through the doctoral level. The primary user group for this collection is the College of Arts and Sciences’ Department of Computer Science, but the collection also serves students and faculty throughout the many schools, departments, centers, and programs at the University of Miami. The Department of Computer Science offers the following degrees:

**Graduate Level:**
- Master of Science in Computer Science
- 5-year Bachelor of Science (BS) + Master of Science (MS) in Computer Science
- Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science

**Undergraduate Level:**
- Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

**Certificates:**
- Post Baccalaureate Certificate in Computer Science

The Department of Computer Science has strong research interests in the following subjects:

- Algorithm Engineering
- Applied Cryptography
- Automated Reasoning
- Bioinformatics
- Computational Complexity
- Computational Geometry
- Computer Graphics
- Computational Neuroscience
- Cybersecurity
- Data Mining
- Data Science
- Machine Learning
- Music Information Retrieval
- Neural Networks
- Robotics
- Scientific Computing
- Semantic Web
- Sensors & Wireless Systems

Subject Coverage
The primary holdings for computer science are in the Library of Congress PM and QA classifications. However, computer science includes many subfields and is an interdisciplinary field of study, so collection development for computer science may span other classifications. Collections for other programs offered by the University of Miami, including, but not limited to, electrical and computer engineering, mathematics, and physics, may influence the composition of the computer science collection. Collecting emphasis is placed on core/major publications, faculty recommendations, and publications that support ongoing research within the University of Miami.

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<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Level* (Actual / Desired)</th>
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<td>Artificial languages - Universal languages</td>
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<td>Mathematics, Numerical Analysis</td>
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Language Coverage
English is the primary language, but materials in other languages are considered on a case-by-case basis. Programming language resources are evaluated by current trends in research and real-world implementation.

Geographical Coverage
There are no geographical limitations to the acquisition of computer science materials.

Chronological Coverage
Collection emphasis is on current research, teaching, and developments. The computer science collection does have some material related to the history and philosophy of the STEM disciplines, which require some chronological depth, but given the limited collection development budgets, expanding this historic collection significantly beyond its current state is not the primary focus of ongoing collection development efforts.

Format Coverage
Journal are collected in electronic-format. Print journals are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and are not purchased upon request without a discussion with the requester. The preferred format of reference works is digital. Monographs are primarily collected in print, but e-books are collected upon the request or when physical formats do not exist. Price differences between e-books and print are also taken into consideration when making purchases.

Material Coverage
Monographs, serials, periodicals, electronic databases, journals, reference materials, and University of Miami dissertations/theses are collected. Festschriften, textbooks, outside dissertations, and conference materials are acquired on a selective basis; freshman-level textbooks are rarely purchased. Field guides are not collected. Popular computing books with applied content (e.g., books that act as guides or cover tutorials on specific programming languages) are not typically acquired in physical formats due to the rapidity with which they become outdated. These materials may be available through e-book services.

Publication Date Coverage
Emphasis is on current publications although retrospective purchasing may be needed to fill collection gaps. Out-of-print titles will be acquired only if there is a clear need to add the item into the collection and the price is concordant with that need.

Special Collections and Manuscripts Coverage
There are no Special Collections or Manuscripts specifically related to computer science within the University of Miami Libraries.

Replacement Policy
Any damaged, lost, or stolen materials may be considered for replacement at the discretion of the subject liaison and/or acquisitions department only if there is a clear need to re-add the item into the collection, and the price is concordant with that need.
Retention Policy
The decision to unsubscribe to materials, store materials off campus, or dispose of materials altogether depends on factors such as past circulation, publication date, relevance of the material, library space priorities, interest of faculty/students, and continued usefulness of the material to their subject areas. Outdated or superseded editions will not be reordered unless there is a specific need.

Budgetary Policy
Beyond the educational mission of the collection, budgetary restrictions also factor heavily in the decision to acquire and retain materials. Budgetary decisions and priorities are established through discussion between the subject liaison librarians and the acquisitions department taking into consideration several factors such as available library funding, priorities of library administration, the larger needs of the University of Miami research and instruction landscape, etc. These discussions happen on a continual basis throughout the academic year with major budgetary revisions occurring at the end of each fiscal year.

Other Resources
Interlibrary loan and document delivery services are available for computer science materials not included in the library’s collection.