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Anthropology, Archaeology, and Ethnology

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I. Scope

Anthropology is the study of the origin, the behavior, and the physical, social, and cultural development of humans. Materials on anthropology, encompassing the sub-fields of social or cultural anthropology, physical anthropology, archaeology, and linguistics, as well as ethnology (comparative works on the origin, distribution, and characteristics of populations of particular regions or countries), are well represented in the Library's General and Special Collections. Anthropological, archaeological, and ethnological materials can be found in all formats: books, documents, technical reports, manuscripts, newspapers, microforms, maps, music, audio and video recordings, films, prints, photographs, and electronic resources. Area divisions have materials in many vernacular languages, and several divisions have unique collections. Ethnographies of peoples from around the globe are represented in the Library's collections. In the Library of Congress, psychological and religious anthropology fall in the B class; archaeological method and theory in C; ethnographies and archaeological site reports along with oral history are in D, E, and F; anthropological method in GN; political anthropology in J; legal anthropology in K; anthropological linguistics in P; ethnomusicology in M; and physical anthropology in Q.

II. Research Strengths

Reports of anthropological fieldwork often appear in publications of government agencies, universities, professional associations, societies, museums, and foundations, and in publications of conferences and congresses. Broad collection policies have assured that publications of these kinds are well represented in the Library's collections. Core journals, monographic series, technical reports, and foreign language journals provide a range of quality research materials.

The Archive of the American Folklife Center holds extensive unpublished, fieldwork-based collections on anthropological subjects. These collections are often multi-media (sound and moving image recordings, photographs, and manuscripts) and run the range of subjects in ethnomusicology, cultural anthropology, and linguistics: music and dance, songs and ballads, folk narrative, dialect and indigenous languages, oral histories, ritual and belief, foodways, material culture, and traditional patterns of work. This archive includes documentation of the traditions of endangered societies, nomadic groups, urban and rural dwellers, indigenous tribes, and industrial workers, encompassing cultural communities throughout the United States and from many other regions of the world. These ethnographic materials include the seminal work of noted ethnographers and anthropologically trained researchers, including Harold C. Conklin, Frances Densmore, Jesse Walter Fewkes, Alice Cunningham Fletcher, Francis La Flesche, Alan Lomax, Herbert Halpert, and Juan B. Rael, among others.

The Manuscript Division, in addition to the Margaret Mead Papers and the South Pacific Ethnographic Archives, also has Rodolfo R. Schuller's archaeological manuscripts on Central and South America, the Papers of E. G. Squier, and correspondence of George Stewart Duncan.

The Prints and Photographs Division is rich in visual anthropology and includes a number of highly important collections, including those of Edward S. Curtis, Laura Gilpin, the American Colonization Society, the Farm Security Administration.

Microform collections of anthropological materials include the Human Relations Area Files; microfilm papers of Franz Boas; collections on North American Indians (photographs from the National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution); papers from the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions; and the microfilm collection, *Manuscripts on Cultural Anthropology*.

The collections are particularly strong in areas covering small indigenous groups from nomadic and mountain peoples to hunters and gatherers representing regions from around the world. Many topics from material culture to social organization to folk literature are strongly represented. The collections' greatest strengths are in materials covering cultural and ethnic groups in a number of large geographic regions, with items often in vernacular languages. Area divisions and strong general collections provide excellent coverage for most areas of North America, Central and South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia and Oceania, and the circumpolar regions.

Preliminary and final reports that accompany research grants for federally funded archaeological investigations are sometimes in the technical report collection in the Science and Technology Division.

Documents from international agencies and foreign governments are often used by cultural anthropologists. Also in demand are scientific journals that describe methodologies employed by archaeologists. These resources fall outside the GN and CC classes yet are anthropological resources well represented at the Library. At present, twenty-seven academic journals that address archaeological topics are available to on-site patrons through the auspices of JSTOR, an online resource.

Subscription databases have added tremendously to the Library's collections by providing access to significant digital collections in this area. Key online resources include: *Anthropology Index Online* which includes the journal holdings of The Anthropology Library at The British Museum (Museum of Mankind) which receives periodicals in all branches of anthropology, from academic institutions and publishers around the world; *Anthropology Plus*, an index to articles and essays in over 5,000 sources published in English and other European languages; and *eHRAF World Cultures*, from the Human Relations Area Files Collection of Ethnography produced at Yale University, is a cross-cultural database of primary source materials on all aspects of cultural and social life worldwide.

Relevant digital collections found in the Library's *American Memory* collection include: *American Indians of the Pacific Northwest*, *History of the American West*, and *Florida Folklife from the WPA Collections, 1937-1942*, Omaha Indian Music, and California Gold: Northern California Folk Music from the Thirties.

Taken together the broad range of materials typically used by anthropologists and archaeologists that the Library collects assiduously (government documents, films, and scientific publications are some examples), and the vast holdings of several of the Library's area divisions (Asian and Hispanic in particular) make the Library an unmatched institution for supporting anthropological research.

III. Collecting Policy

For most classes the Library collects at Level 4, but for ethnomusicology and physical anthropology, it collects at Level 5.

The Copyright Best Edition statement provides guidance for selecting materials for the anthropology, archeology, and ethnology collections.

IV. Acquisition Sources: Current and Future

The Library acquires anthropological materials in all formats and languages, e.g., print materials, microforms, audio and moving image recordings, photographs, and electronic, and from a variety of sources, including copyright deposits, Cataloging in Publication (CIP), the field offices, purchase, and gift and exchange. Materials from all countries and in all languages are significant and we collect broadly to ensure full representation of the literature.

Some e-journal and born digital materials are collected at a lower level than their print counterparts, because the current Copyright law does not address the deposit of these materials. Also, some of the mechanics associated with the acquisition, storage and display of digital materials have not yet been resolved. As electronic materials in the field of anthropology proliferate, it is imperative that these materials be added, through web capture or other means, to Library of Congress collections.

V. Collecting Levels

LC Classification		Collecting Level
B	Psychological anthropology; anthropology of religion	4
C	Archaeological method and theory	4
D	Ethnographies and archaeological site reports	4
D	Oral history	
E	Ethnographies and archaeological site reports	4
F	Ethnographies and archaeological site reports	4
GN	Anthropological method	4
J	Political anthropology	4
K	Legal anthropology	4
M	Ethnomusicology	5
P	Anthropological linguistics	4
Q	Physical anthropology	5

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