



## **University Library Collection Development Policy 2023-2024**

### **Introduction**

Anglia Ruskin University's Library Service supports our University's strategic objectives of creating a leading learning and innovation ecosystem that delivers and strengthens the underpinning operations of the University, in ensuring that students and staff have seamless and timely access to a wide range of library services, excellent learning support and high-quality information resources. The Collection Development Policy underpins the development of the collection of information resources and the provision of access to content accordingly, within SLS planning priorities.

Our collection supports learning, teaching and research.

The information resources are selected in partnership with academic staff. We ensure that resources are relevant, support the curriculum or priority research areas and represent excellent value for money. We are committed to a continuous review of our resources accordingly.

We review and update this policy annually, in line with corporate objectives and timescales, to ensure that it continues to meet the needs of our university.

### **Policy Statements**

#### **Access and discovery**

- We aim for ease of access to information resources and to provide inclusive access to our library resources. We are committed to compliance with the EU directive on web accessibility.
- We focus on providing electronic access to library collections as far as possible, which enables wider access, supports distance learners and saves physical space. Alternative supplementary access, such as print stock, is offered where electronic access is unavailable or economically not viable, or where a physical resource is required for accessibility.
- We facilitate the creation of electronic module reading lists by academic staff. We support the negotiated construction of generic study skills lists and those covering substantive topics. We provide an individual e-textbook to students for level 4 modules. This is designed to encourage access to essential reading.
- Access to resources not held within our collections is provided through document delivery services and participation in collaborative schemes.
- We seek to maximise access to our electronic resources within the terms of the licence provider. We comply with the UK's Copyright Licensing Agency comprehensive scanning licence to provide access to relevant digital media.
- We aim to have highly responsive, student-centred collection development processes that reflect emerging trends for accessing content, including new modes of scholarly publication, such as Open Access.



### **Evaluation and selection**

- We undertake a regular review and audit of our book collections, which ensures an emphasis on materials which are required to meet the needs of current research and teaching. Physical materials are also reviewed in relation to the collection space available.
- We actively seek and act on customer feedback to inform the development of and accessibility to the Library's collections, within our budget constraints.
- We actively promote and investigate new models for providing access to content and aim to ensure highly responsive student-centred collection development processes, including demand-driven acquisition models.
- We apply a data-driven approach to the management and evaluation of our e-resources and journal subscriptions, including cost-per-use analyses and business cases.
- We seek to gain maximum benefit from read and publish/transitional agreements and promote access to open access research published by ARU scholars.

### **Acquisition and withdrawal**

- E-books are made accessible through demand-driven acquisition models wherever possible, which trigger a purchase only when an e-book has been accessed.
- We are committed to the ethical disposal and/or recycling of de-selected materials aligned with our university's environmental and sustainability policies.
- We seek to develop and maximise access to open access resources that are managed by open access licences, e.g., Creative Commons, open access agreements from publishers.
- We use consortia and apply best practice with regards to cost-effective and value for money procurement.

### **Collaborative provision**

- We are committed to being actively involved in the provision of access to our institutional repository, research data and information.
- Document delivery via interlibrary loan and digitisation services gives access to resources beyond our collections including participation in collaborative schemes giving our staff and students opportunities to use other libraries.

Members of the Library Management Team have considered the potential impact of aspects of the Collection Development Policy on students and staff at ARUP, Chelmsford and Cambridge sites through an equality impact assessment and put forward mitigations to anticipatable potential implications. These have been recorded and are available to SLS staff with the key messages. This includes the need to record feedback for further review.

University Library Collections Management Group

March 2023. Next review due March 2024