

Reed Library Deselection Policy - Criteria for Deselection

Table of Contents:

- [General Deselection Criteria](#)
- [Discipline Specific Criteria for Deselection](#)

General Deselection Criteria

Items that meet any of these conditions will automatically be kept:

- Item appears in Resources for College Libraries
- Item appears in a recommended, discipline specific, professional bibliography
- Item has circulated in the past 8 years since the library's implementation of the Aleph Library Management System

The following criteria should be used in assessing an item's value for retention, and should be applied for all subject matter:

- Physical condition-- missing pages, text unreadable, water damage, poor paper quality, musty, beyond repair, or other factors which prohibit re-binding
- Superseded editions not containing unique information, data, or providing a historical reference not available in the most current edition
- Duplicate titles unless a proven demand exists for multiple copies
- Trendy ephemera-items such as handwritten or printed papers which were originally expected to have only short-term usefulness or popularity
- Currency or reliability of the resource's information has lost value
- Superfluous subjects no longer relevant to the SUNY Fredonia curriculum. Item has very little or no apparent relevance to current or anticipated college programs
- Copyright date-items that appear outdated based on the subject and scope of the work. Consult the Discipline Specific Criteria for further weeding guidance.
- Government documents-physical items currently in the stacks that are available via a ".gov" Internet site. The stable url must be located and sent to the Cataloging dept. for revision of the permanent cataloging record prior to weeding the physical item.
- Multi-volume sets- individual items under consideration for deselection should not be removed from multi-volume sets. Either the entire set should be deselected, or, all items in the set should be retained.

To summarize the criteria for weeding the acronym MUSTY serves:

M Misleading and/or factually inaccurate
U Ugly-worn, and beyond mending or rebinding
S Superseded by a truly New edition or by a much better book
T Trivial - of no discernable literary or scientific value
Y Your collection has no use for this material, irrelevant to the needs of your clientele

Last Updated: 7/17/2009

Discipline Specific Criteria for Deselection

For LC Call Number range G-JZ
Daniel A. Reed Library, SUNY Fredonia
Spring 2009

Note: The Discipline Specific Criteria for Deselection establishes guidelines for the copyright date of an item and criteria that acknowledges the uniqueness of various disciplines. This document should be used in conjunction with the document entitled General Criteria for Deselection.

Geography: (G-GT)

Includes Subclass

G - General Geography (copyright before 1993)
GA – Mathematical geography (copyright before 1998)
GB – Physical geography (copyright N/A)
GC – Oceanography (copyright N/A)
GF – Human ecology, Anthropogeography (copyright before 1998)
GN – Anthropology (copyright before 1998)
GR – Folklore (copyright before 1998)
GT – Manners and customs (copyright before 2003)

(a) Note:Keep in mind MUSTY.

(b) Deselection criteria excludes: classics, primary works, and/or standard editions. Books in this area become dated rapidly and should be weeded unless they contain significant background or historical information not available elsewhere.

Athletics: (GV)

Includes Subclass

GV 1-200 – Outdoor life, Outdoor recreation
GV 201- 555 – Physical training
GV 561 -1198.99 – Sports
GV 1580-1799 – Dance
GV 1800-1860 – Circuses, spectacles, etc.

- (a) Books that have a copyright date before 1998 should be considered for deselection, excluding classics, primary works, or standard editions
- (b) Superseded rulebooks maintained only to last two editions. Old instructional material considered for discard if new items exist.
- (c) Note: Keep in mind MUSTY

Social Science: (H)

- (a) Interdisciplinary needs are considered in the deselection process.
- (b) Books that have a copyright date before 1998 should be considered for deselection, excluding classics, primary works, or standard editions.
- (c) Note: Keep in mind MUSTY

Statistics: (HA)

- (a) Interdisciplinary needs are considered.
- (b) Sources in these subject areas the sources tend to be used in a supportive nature and as such should not be analyzed heavily according to circulation figures.
- (c) Books that have a copyright date before 2006 should be considered for deselection, excluding classics, primary works, or standard editions. Unless they have an historical approach, many works are of little use after five years.
- (d) Note: Keep in mind MUSTY

Economics: (HB-HJ)

Includes Subclass

- HB – Economics, Economic theory, Demography (copyright before 2003)
- HC – Economic history and conditions (copyright before 2003)
- HD – Industries, Land use, Agriculture, Labor (copyright before 1998)
- HE – Transportation and Communication (copyright before 1998)
- HF – Commerce (copyright before 2003)
- HG – Finance (copyright before 2003)
- HJ – Public Finance (copyright before 2003)
- (a) Consideration of economics interdisciplinary contribution to geography, history, management, social science and international affairs.
- (b) Deselection criteria excludes: classics, primary works and/or standard editions.
- (c) Note: Keep in mind MUSTY

Sociology: (HM-HX)

Includes Subclass

- HM – Sociology, general and theoretical (copyright before 2003)
- HN – Social history, Social problems, Social reform (copyright before 2003)
- HQ – Social groups (includes family, marriage, woman, sexual life, erotica, feminism, sexual orientation) (copyright before 2003)
- HS – Societies (includes freemasons, religious societies, ethnic societies, political societies, Boy Scouts, etc.) (copyright before 2003)
- HT – Communities, Classes, Races (includes urban, rural, regional planning, social classes (e.g., middle class, slavery) (copyright before 2003)
- HV – Social pathology, Social and public welfare, Criminology (includes charities, temperance reform) (copyright before 1998)
- HX – Socialism, Communism, Anarchism (includes utopias) (copyright before 2003)

- (a) Deselection criteria excludes: classics, primary works and/or standard editions.
- (b) Note: Keep in mind MUSTY

Political Science: (J-JZ)

Includes Subclass

- J - General legislative and executive papers (copyright before 1998)
- JA - Political science (General) (copyright before 2003)
- JC - Political theory (copyright before 2003)
- JF - Political institutions and public administration (copyright before 2003)
- JJ - Political institutions and public administration (North America) (copyright before 2003)
- JK - Political institutions and public administration (United States) (copyright before 1998)
- JL - Political institutions and public administration (Canada, Latin America, etc.) (copyright before 1998)
- JN - Political institutions and public administration (Europe) (copyright before 1998)
- JQ - Political institutions and public administration (Asia, Africa, Australia, Pacific Area, etc.) (copyright before 1998)
- JS - Local government. Municipal government (copyright before 1998)
- JV - Colonies and colonization. Emigration and immigration. International migration (copyright before 2003)
- JZ - International relations (copyright before 2003)

- (a) Political science interrelates with other fields such as social science, international affairs, geography, history, and psychology. Keep in mind the interdisciplinary nature of this field.
- (b) Deselection criteria excludes: classics, primary works and/or standard editions.
- (c) Note: Keep in mind MUSTY

*The discipline specific criteria established in this document are based on the American Library Association approved "CREW Guidelines for Weeding Your Collection"