

# **Departmental Policy Statement: Earth Sciences**

## **College of Arts & Sciences**

Faculty Representative: Dr Jer-Ming Chiu  
Library Liaison: Joyce McKibben  
Last review and approval: 1 April 2006

### ***Curriculum***

The Department of Earth Sciences is a newly created program that has 26 faculty members and offers both graduate and undergraduate degrees. Our faculty members have diverse research backgrounds within five major DES research foci: Hazards; Geophysics; Active Tectonics & Orogenic Belts; Quaternary Studies & Geomorphology and Hydrology & Water Resources. These research foci are supported by the GIS Laboratory and the Memphis Center for Advanced Spatial Analysis (MCASA), the Active Tectonics Laboratory, the Field Deployment Laboratory, the New Madrid Seismic Network and the Mid-America Earthquake Center.

### ***Purpose and Scope of the Collection***

The primary function of the collection is to support the research and teaching needs of the Department of Earth Sciences with undergraduate and graduate level resources.

### ***Cooperative Agreements***

None specified.

### ***Geographical Coverage***

The United States is the primary focus but materials from other areas of the world are collected.

### ***Period Coverage/Date of Publication Range***

Primary emphasis is on contemporary materials, though attention is given to historically significant works.

### ***Languages***

The primary language of the collection is English. Materials in other languages are acquired selectively.

### ***Types of Materials***

Monographs:

Serials/Series:

Due to recent budgetary constraints, new periodical titles are purchased on a limited, as-needed basis with a corresponding evaluation of existing titles for current relevancy.

Electronic Resources:

The University Libraries buy or subscribe to electronic indexes and full-text databases that offer research value. Links to free web sites are not actively collected together on the UML web site although links to web sites may be included in guides produced by the Reference Department at UML. Currently the UML subscribes to GeoBase, a geology, geography, and earth sciences database of 2,065 periodicals, and GeoRef, an earth sciences database of over 25,000 sources. UML also provides a link to the Forum of Science and subscribes to JSTOR, a retrospective multidisciplinary database of journals.

Microforms:

Research collections in microforms are purchased when deemed relevant.

Theses/Dissertations:

Dissertations are acquired as needed or requested.

Audio/Visual:

Video and audio materials are acquired when relevant to the curriculum.

### ***Location of Materials Collection***

The main collection of Geology materials is located in the Earth Sciences Library, a branch facility on campus at the University of Memphis. Geography materials are located in the McWherter Library, the main library on campus.

**Special Collections**

None specified.

**Subject Areas by LC Classification**

G	Geography (General), Atlases, Maps
GA	Mathematical Geography; Cartography
GB	Physical Geography
GE	Environmental Sciences
GF	Human Ecology; Anthrogeography
QE1 - QE350.62	Geology (General)
QE351 - QE399.2	Mineralogy
QE500 - QE639.5	Dynamic and Structural Geology
QE551	Seismology
QE521 - QE545	Volcanoes and Earthquakes
QE640 - QE699	Stratigraphy

**Related Areas of Collection**

Anthropology	Archaeology	City and Regional Planning
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