

LIBRARY COLLECTIONS



The importance of the College's library collections has never been greater. The enormous amount of information freely available on the Internet and the power of Google are impressive, but limited. Our physical and digital collections are curated to provide the tools and content that enable access to scholarly resources that support teaching and research in the liberal arts tradition.

The library's collections are rapidly transitioning from a print to an electronic format. Improved technologies and access to content are creating a blend of print and electronic books, full-text databases, data sets, media and locally created content. Increasingly, access to content is via licensing arrangements rather than traditional ownership models.

The increased cost of journals and growing need for space have served as an incentive to focus the library's collection strategy toward collaboration and a focus on access over ownership. This strategy is frequently referred to as "demand-driven acquisition," or DDA. This innovative strategy provides immediate access to ebooks from academic and scholarly publishers that are only purchased based on actual use. Using this strategy, the library can provide access to more content and continue to balance our collection investments.

THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE LIBRARY COLLECTIONS:

- Our collections add value to the Connecticut College experience for our faculty, students and staff. The collections reflect a community focused on scholarship, and a broader perspective and engagement with the world.
- The development and management of the collections is a fluid process whereby librarians, faculty and students work together to build collections. Our collection goal is to reflect and expand the unique intellectual and social life of the campus community.
- Key strategies for building the collections emphasize the importance of collaboration through the CTW Library Consortium, the library liaison program, open access, interlibrary loan and an active engagement with the academic library community.

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