

Collection Development

BCC Library will work to make a wide range of print and non-print media available to the students as BCC and other Blackfeet Indian Reservation residents. A special effort will be made to include materials representing all viewpoints.

While the library will be open to all reservation residents, the following priority will be followed in planning and operation of the library;

- The needs of BCC students and staff
- The needs of Tribal members who are not students
- Other reservation residents

The Library exists to support the total program of the Community College. Therefore, the development of the library collection should directly relate to the development of the college itself. The following goals will be used as a guide to collection development and the selection of materials.

The BCC Library will select, encourage and make available for use of materials which:

- Supplement formal study and encourage informal self-study
- Material required by students and faculty for research
- Meet the informational needs of the college community, including subject areas not covered by formal instruction
- Stimulate participation and interest in community, tribal, state, country and world affairs
- Give access to a variety of opinions of current interest
- Assist and encourage the individual to grow intellectually, socially, spiritually, and culturally

With these goals in mind the Library will acquire materials with the following emphasis:

- First priority will be given to materials that serve as either required or supplementary works for courses
- Materials which relate local history, culture and art, and works written by, about, and for American Indians
- General reference sources, and works in areas not currently related to the college programs but which are of such importance that they are recommended for the community college library, or are of special interest to the community
- Research material for faculty use in preparation of lectures and teaching

Long Term Goals

The goals of the BCC Library are:

- To support programs of study offered by the college
- To provide an aesthetic atmosphere for research and recreational study
- To provide the most current and up to date material available to the students, and community
- To provide a comprehensive collection of Blackfeet material

Selection Guidelines

In order to build a collection of significant and appropriate materials, the library will select and acquire materials according to objective guidelines. All acquisitions, whether purchased or donated, are considered in terms of the following standards:

- When lack of funds limit acquisitions, current publications of lasting and scholarly value will be given priority over older and out-of-print materials
- Publications in English and Blackfeet language will be given highest priority
- Materials will be acquired in another suitable format, if originals are not available or are too expensive
- If the Library holds material in microform, hard copies will not be purchased
- Duplicate copies will be purchased only by justification of heavy and continued use, or for reserve purposes
- Variant editions of a title will be acquired only if they are “standard” editions or contain substantial changes or up-dates

The following criteria will be considered in the selection of specific titles or materials:

- Suitability of physical format for library use
- Suitability of subject and level for intended audience
- Present and potential relevance to community needs
- Appropriateness and effectiveness of content
- Importance as document for the times
- Relation to existing collections or other material on the same subject
- Reputation and/or significance of author
- Skill, competence and purpose of author
- Attention of critics, reviews, and the public
- Comprehensiveness and depth of treatment
- Objectivity
- Clarity, accuracy and logic of presentation
- Types of Material

The content of the material will be the basic criterion for selection however; format does affect cost and use, and therefore, will be considered.

Subject Areas:

- Pikanii Language and Culture
- Business and Information Technology
- Education and Health Sciences
- Liberal Studies
- Human Services
- Math and Science
- Workforce Trades

Books

When a book is available in both hardcover and paperback, that paperback copy will normally be acquired if: the price is significantly lower than the hardcover copy and the anticipated use will not be extremely heavy.

Electronic Resources

Databases and electronic resources will be purchased and maintained to support student research and education.

Textbooks

Textbooks will not be added to the collections unless they are the only information source available and are of significant use to the collection.

Documents

State and Federal documents will be acquired if they support the curriculum and/or affect the college, community, Blackfeet Tribe, or all American Indians.

Newspapers

Newspapers will be acquired to give local, national and international news coverage.

Periodicals

Periodicals are selected and acquired following the same criteria as for other resource material. Physical periodicals will be maintained if there are no electronic resources available in full-text.

Audio-Visual

Cost, budget and potential use to the college will govern the acquisition and selection of this material.

- Recordings, both musical and spoken, on disk and cassette
- Film/Videos will be added to complement the courses offered at BCC
- Maps will be purchased if they represent areas of local, historical, and tribal interest
- Microform will be acquired when the information is not found in any other format, or when the original is more expensive than the microform copy.

Fiction and Children's Materials

Funding for the Library comes from the college. The library director will work with grant and other resources to purchase materials periodically in these collections.

Gifts

The BCC Library solicits and encourages gifts and donations of useful materials, or money to purchase them, provided they fit into the selection policy and provided there are no restrictions attached.

The Library will not accept gifts with conditions as to their disposition or location except by express permission of the library director.

The Library is free to dispose of any unneeded publications regardless of how they were acquired.

The Library cannot legally appraise gifts for tax or inheritance purposes.

Censorship

The Library will vigorously resist any censorship attempt from outside or within. The Library endorses the Library Bill of Rights and the principles of that document are considered an integral part of this policy statement.