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Description of Speech and Drama Collection

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SPEECH AND DRAMA

Purpose

The purpose of the speech and drama collection is to serve present and future students of speech and drama and related subjects. Academic programs served by the collection include undergraduate programs in theater and drama; speech communication and human relations; radio, television and film; speech pathology and audiology; and debate. The collection also serves graduate programs leading to the M.A. degree in speech and drama (with concentration in speech communication and human relations), theater and drama, international theater studies, and speech pathology; the M.A. and M.S. degrees in radio, television and film; and the Ph.D. degree in speech pathology and audiology, and speech and hearing science. Students and faculty working in these programs constitute the primary clientele of the collection.

Because communication is essential to learning and teaching, people studying and teaching in nearly all fields are served by the collection. Like other collections in the Libraries, the collection also serves students enrolled on other college campuses, the Lawrence community and people seeking materials through interlibrary loan.

The fields of speech and drama are related to the following other fields whose statements should be consulted for additional information: special education; psychology; linguistics; anatomy; physiology and neurology (of speech and hearing organs); languages and literatures; journalism; history; political science; art; physics; religion; philosophy; and architecture and urban planning.

Collection Guidelines

Languages

The primary language for all areas of the collection is English. Materials are collected also in French, German, Russian, Spanish, Italian, Japanese and the Scandinavian languages. To meet the current needs of the International Theater Studies program, emphasis is now placed on Russian-, French- and Spanish-language drama materials. Any important speech and drama work will be added to the collection even though it is in a language accessible to only a few library users.

Chronological Guidelines

In all areas of speech and drama, currently-published materials are of primary importance, but materials from all eras are considered for inclusion. Retrospective collecting in drama emphasizes the following languages and periods: Italian--from the renaissance to the present; English--from the middle ages to the present; French--from the middle ages to the present; German--from the 18th century to the present; Scandinavian--from the 19th century to the present; Russian--19th and 20th centuries; Spanish--from the 16th century to the present.

Geographical Guidelines

Though collecting of speech and drama materials is heaviest in North American, British and European publications, an effort is made to include materials in any language when a need exists.

Treatment of Subject

Scholarly monographs, including dissertations and journals, are important in all areas of speech and drama. Histories, biographies, bibliographies, directories and indexes are collected. Texts and critical editions of plays are included. Plays for children are acquired. Advanced textbooks and outstanding introductory texts in all speech and drama areas are included. Basic textbooks in speech pathology, audiology and related fields are added.

Type of Material

Translations into English, German and the Romance languages are often included; translations to other languages are added selectively. Microforms are important in the collection of older drama materials because they save space. Currently, significant collections of drama materials in Spanish, French, Italian and English are received in microform series.

Date of Publication

No publications are excluded because of their date of publication, but in all areas current publications are especially important.

Other Resources

The Government Documents Department is an important source of information about copyrights on American drama as well as other speech and drama materials

published by the governments of the United States and Great Britain. The Department of Special Collections has strong holdings of English and French 18th and 19th century plays and Anglo-Irish drama, some 16th century Italian plays, early works (16th to 18th centuries) on the theater and theater design, papers of individuals in the theater (e.g., Roger Imhof in vaudeville, William Poel in Shakespearean drama), as well as larger works such as the three volume collection of programs and posters for Astley's Amphitheater and the multi-volume Monumenta Scenica. Works by and about Kansas dramatists and about Kansas theaters and programs presented in them are included in the Kansas Collection. The Kansas Collection holds the works of William Inge in manuscript as well as in printed form. The University Archives collects films and tapes of such university events as athletic tests, classroom lectures, presentations by visitors to the campus, and radio broadcasts. The Department of Speech and Drama maintains a collection of tapes, and the Music Library houses a script collection. The ERIC data base is available for research in speech education. The New York Times data base is available for research in drama as well as in other areas.

Related Subject Policy Statements

Related collections whose policy statements are of interest to scholars include: Special Education, Psychology, Linguistics, Anatomy, Physiology and Neurology (of speech and hearing organs), languages and literatures, Journalism, History, Political Science, Physics, Religious Studies, Philosophy, Architecture and Urban Planning.

Levels of Collecting Intensity by Subject Subdivision

Collecting Level

Speech communication and human relations

Works on theory of rhetoric, intercultural communications, communication and cultural innovation, communication and organization; speeches, particularly by people in contemporary public life, are included; even meretricious examples are useful in the collection

D :

Collecting Level

Theater and drama

Plays, dramatic theory, criticism,
stage design and lighting, directing,
acting and costume design

D

Radio, television and film

Aesthetics, criticism, film scores,
design, acting, directing, production,
cinematography, scenography, editing,
technical radio, television and film
operation

D

Speech pathology, audiology, deaf education and
speech and hearing science

Works on phonetics; articulation, acoustics
and psycho-acoustics; speech and language
development; anatomy, physiology and neuro-
logy of the speech and hearing mechanisms;
aural rehabilitation; theories of hearing;
methods of teaching communication to people
with speech and hearing impairments; disorders
of speech, language and hearing and their
evaluation and treatment

D

Debate

Principles and procedures of debate, publications
about current debate topics; other subject collec-
tions, particularly social science collections,
are important to people active in debate

C

Strengths and Weaknesses

In general, the collection adequately serves the clientele and purposes stated
above. However, historical materials in radio, television and film lack depth.

Rosemary McDonough
Bibliographer