Programmatic Data

The purpose of the Sociology and the Anthropology collection is to support teaching and research in those two areas. The Department of Sociology and Anthropology offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in both sociology and anthropology, the highest degree being an M.A. with a non-thesis option.

The sociology faculty’s core strengths include: culture—food, identity, literature, and youth subcultures; international development; media; demography; social movements; inequalities—race, class, and gender; quantitative methods; and qualitative methods—ethnography, in-depth interviewing, and archival analysis. The anthropology faculty's core strengths include: the ethnohistory of the Colonial Southeast with an emphasis on the economic, social, and environmental transformations of that period; the archaeology of the prehistoric; the archaeology of Central Europe making use of mortuary and landscape features, focusing on Celtic peoples and the Bronze and Iron ages; the archaeology of Mesoamerica, and areal interests in Latin America and South Korea.

The department is actively involved in the Croft Institute for International Studies, the Center for Southern Studies, the African American Studies program and the Social Work department. There also three small research centers associated with the Department. The Center for Archaeological Research specializes in contract work for government agencies in the southeastern region. The Center for Population Studies provides census statistics for local governmental organizations and pursues research on regional economic development issues. The George McLean Institute for Community Development sponsors conferences and workshops to help solve economic and social problems in northeast Mississippi.

Collection Description

Call Numbers: Most of the relevant materials, for Anthropology will be found in E51-99, and F1219-1221, F1434-1435, and GN. For sociology the relevant L.C. numbers are: E184-185, H, HB848-3700HG-HV.

Languages: English is preferred, although select materials in Mesoamerican archaeology may be in Spanish.

Chronological Period: Current materials, particularly in Sociology, are a must. Standard works and authors from all time periods should be acquired.

Geographical Areas: While sociological and anthropological library collections should still emphasis the United States and regional problems in the South, research is now international, and the collections should reflect this increasingly global perspective. The
archaeologists concentrate on Southeastern U.S. materials, with a secondary focus on Mesoamerica and Iron Age Europe.

**Format:** Membership in the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research provides the sociologists, particularly the demographers, with access to census data and other machine readable data sets. The federal regional depository and the state documents depository are also important sources of information. Monographs (largely trade and university presses) and journals meet the other library needs of the sociologists. The "site report" (often published in limited edition by a sponsoring governmental agency) is a detailed description of an archaeological excavation. A greater effort should be made to collect these for the southeastern U.S. region. The anthropologists' needs for other library materials may be met largely through monographs (trade and university presses) and journals. Journals and a large proportion of monographs are provided online.