



Best Practises in Multilingual Collections

By Arija Fisher



Outline

- Introduction
- Literature review
- Toronto
- UAlberta/NEOS
- Best practises, based on my recommendations

A quick question:

Background Literature

- Why are multilingual collections important?
- What challenges are there in implementing multilingual collections?
- What are the differences between multilingual collections in public and academic libraries?

Why are multilingual collections important?

- Supporting Canadian values
 - Making people feel more welcome
- Supporting LIS values

What challenges are in implementing multilingual collections?

- Shifting demographics
 - Demand
- Financial constraints
- Language barriers

Differences between multilingual collections in public and academic libraries?

- process of selecting foreign language titles is a different process than the acquisition of domestic titles
- Curriculum requirements

Toronto Public Library

Browse by language

See what's available in your language. Place holds to request the items you want.

Amharic | አማርኛ

Arabic | العربية

Armenian | Հայերեն

Bengali | বাংলা

Chinese | 简化字 | 繁體字

Croatian | Hrvatski

French | Français

German | Deutsch

Greek | ελληνικά

Gujarati | ગુજરાતી

Hebrew | עברית

Hindi | हिन्दी

Hungarian | Magyar

Italian | Italiano

Japanese | 日本語

Korean | 한국어

Kurdish | كورد

Macedonian | Македонски

Malayalam | മലയാളം

Nepali | नेपाली

Panjabi | ਪੰਜਾਬੀ

Persian | فارسی

Polish | Polski

Portuguese | português

Pushto | پښتو

Romanian | Română

Russian | русский язык

Serbian | српски

Somali | Soomaali

Spanish | Español

Tagalog

Tamil | தமிழ்

Telugu | తెలుగు

Tibetan | བོད་སྐད་

Tigrinya | ትግርኛ

Turkish | Türkçe

Ukrainian | українська

Urdu | اُردو

Vietnamese | Tiếng Việt

Yiddish | ייִדיש

<https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/books-video-music/your-language/>

University of Alberta

Advanced Search

Find items that match of

All Fields

Title

Author

Subject

Sort results by

AND have these attributes

Access

- At Library 3,762,491
- Online 2,440,546

Institution

Library

Format

Publication Year

Author

Subject

Language

- Afrikaans 352
- Akkadian 119
- Albanian 78
- Algonquian (Other) 127
- Arabic 8,102
- Aramaic 132
- Armenian 159
- Athapascan (Other) 98
- Bantu (Other) 132

VS

Language

English	4,399,819
French	485,241
German	243,911
Spanish	88,743
Russian	73,223
Italian	51,516
Latin	45,631
Chinese	44,011
Ukrainian	27,803
Polish	23,072
Japanese	22,185
Portuguese	13,269
Undetermined	11,815
Dutch	8,258
Arabic	7,839
Czech	7,479
Swedish	6,602
Korean	6,283
Multiple languages	6,027
Danish	4,726

Best Practice Suggestions

- Use ALA 'Guidelines for the Development and Promotion of Multilingual Collections and Services'
- Form community connections for engagement
- Evaluate policy and budget to make what you have work
- Include minimum # of books per language
- Expand bibliographic access
- Cooperative efforts between libraries

Conclusion

Multilingual collections are valuable, and while there are challenges to putting them together effectively, there are ways to do so that benefit the library system and patrons within it.

Thank you!

For further questions or if you wish to contact me:
arija@ualberta.ca