THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF USING KOREAN EBOOKS IN AN ACADEMIC LIBRARY

Ellie Kim, Korean Studies Librarian, University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa Library
CURRENT STATUS OF THE USE OF KOREAN EBOOKS IN UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA

Major purchase vendor: BookRail

Total purchases: 102 titles

No Korean e-book orders after 2014
CONSIDERATIONS IN PURCHASING DECISIONS

- Collection development policy
- Assigned subjects for cooperative collection development of Korean Collections Consortium of North America
- Research interests of campus members
- Academic trends / noteworthy political and social situations / significance of the books in their academic fields
- Purchase requests
• 19 categories / 23,575 titles

• Home life
• Health/Hobby
• Korean language/Foreign language/Dictionary
• Textbook
• Comic
• Literature
• Business/Economy
• Society
• Certification/Exam Guide Book
• Travel/Geography
• History/Culture
• Art/Popular culture
• Humanity
• Biography
• Self-management
• Nature/Science
• Journal
• Religion
• Computer/Internet
• III. GUIDELINES TO MATERIALS COLLECTED OR EXCLUDED

Areas of Exclusion: Textbooks are not collected. Language learning textbooks are excluded except as examples or representative works in learning Korean. A small historical collection of Korean public school textbooks from the twentieth century is maintained for their value as historical artifacts and potential value to research.
• Home life
• Health/Hobby
• Korean language/Foreign language/Dictionary
• Textbook
• Comic
• Literature
• Business/Economy
• Society
• Certification/Exam Guide Book
• Travel/Geography
• History/Culture
• Art/Popular culture
• Humanity
• Biography
• Self-management
• Nature/Science
• Journal
• Religion
• Computer/Internet
Located less than a mile from the University of Hawaii at Manoa campus

30,000 titles

Purchase eBooks from Kyobo

Sufficient funds from Korean community in Hawaii
• Home life  
• Health/Hobby  
• Comic  
• Literature  
• Business/Economy  
• Society  
• Certification/Exam Guide Book  
• Travel/Geography  
• History/Culture  
• Art/Popular culture  
• Humanity  
• Biography  
• Self-management  
• Nature/Science  
• Journal  
• Religion  
• Computer/Internet
UH’S ASSIGNED SUBJECTS FOR COOPERATIVE COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT OF KCCNA

• Architecture (95)
• History, To 1392 (180)
• Modern social conditions (30)
• Nationalism (10)
• Public health (6)
• Traditional music (22)
• Urban planning/studies (24)
• Publications on Cheju-do (35)
• Publications on Korea and Koreans published in Europe
• Publications on Korea and Koreans published in Hawai’i
RESEARCH INTERESTS OF THE UH’S KOREAN STUDIES COMMUNITY

- Korean-Japan relation (38)
- Human rights/human rights law (3)
- Korean language pedagogy (37)
- Korean linguistics/phonetics/phonology (33)
- North Korea architecture (1)
- South Korea-North Korea relation (190)
- Hallyu/the Korean wave (11)
- Intercultural communication (17)
- Modern Korean women literature (10)
- Modern Korean poetry (67)
- Aging population (5)
- North Korean refugee (2)
- Korean film industry (3)
• Total 782 titles
• 0 title were available as eBooks
Korean publications

- Total 92 titles
- 0 titles were available as an eBook

English publications

- Total 46 titles
- 43 titles were available as an eBook
• There are simply not many ebooks
• Give us more books to purchase!
- Willingness to purchase more e-books
  - library’s space issue
  - users’ familiarity with e-book use increased due to the pandemic

- Increase in the number of recently published e-books
  - 40% of books in the BookRail catalog were published in 2020-2021
Thank you!