

Materials Challenge Policy

Censorship of the library's collection will not be tolerated. As a university library, we cultivate a collection of resources that are appropriate for the curriculum at Hollins and an adult audience. Our collection includes all material under our stewardship, including but not limited to: physical and electronic resources, archival material, and Digital Projects. This material represents various viewpoints intended to stimulate intellectual inquiry and foster spirited debate. Complaints about library materials will be reviewed based on the guidelines endorsed by the American Library Association's Intellectual Freedom Manual.¹

The Wyndham Robertson Library delegates the responsibility for the selection and evaluation of materials to our librarians who specialize in different areas. Should a member of the Hollins community think that certain material is unsuitable for the library's collection, the first step is to discuss their concerns with the appropriate librarian and/or the University Librarian.² These discussions will be informed by the missions of the library and the university, and how the material supports higher education learning and "independent inquiry and the free exchange of ideas."³

Formal complaints (challenges) will be handled on a case-by-case basis and can only be made by current students, faculty, and staff of Hollins University. To initiate formal proceedings you must fill out this Challenge Form and return it to Luke Vilelle, University Librarian. Because "the curriculum and courses developed by HU faculty, and the subsequent academic needs of students in those courses, are the primary driver of the library's collection building efforts,"⁴ the Challenge will then be reviewed by the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC). The AAC will review the material(s), speak with the person making the challenge, and then determine what if any action will be taken. When it is necessary to remove material from Hollins' Digital Projects, a placeholder will be left behind to inform readers that the content has been withdrawn.

¹ Magi, Trina J., and Martin Garnar. *Intellectual Freedom Manual*. 9th ed. Chicago: ALA Editions, an imprint of the American Library Association, 2015.

² Wyndham Robertson Library. "Our Staff." Accessed September 26, 2019. <http://library.hollins.edu/staff/>

³ Hollins University. "History and Mission." Accessed August 21, 2019. <https://www.hollins.edu/who-we-are/history/>

⁴ Wyndham Robertson Library. "Collection Development Policy." Accessed September 26, 2019. <http://library.hollins.edu/colldevpolicy/>

Challenge Form

Name _____ Date _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Do you represent yourself? _____ An organization? _____

University affiliation (student, faculty, or staff) _____

**Only current students, faculty, or staff of Hollins University may challenge materials*

1. Resource on which you are commenting:

Title _____

Author/Producer _____

Other identifying information _____

2. What brought this resource to your attention?
3. Have you examined the entire resource?
4. What concerns you about the resource? Please be specific and use additional pages if necessary.
5. Are you advocating for the removal of the material(s)? Or, are there additional resources you suggest to provide information and/or other viewpoints on this topic?