Resources available through the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library strengthen the quality of the political science program at USF St. Petersburg. A member of the library faculty serves as the liaison with assigned collection development responsibilities in the areas of political science and law (Library of Congress classifications HX, J, and K), as well as allied disciplines, such as history. Faculty have taken advantage of bibliographic instruction sessions by librarians that cover areas such as Constitutional Law I and II. Students are also strongly encouraged to schedule individual Research Assistance Program (RAP) appointments with librarians to learn about sources appropriate for their papers. Present library resources within the building satisfactorily cover current curricular offerings at the baccalaureate level in political science. A select number of archival and manuscript collections in the Special Collections and Archives of the library document notable politicians and political activities in Pinellas County.

In addition to the resources held by the library, cooperative relationships and electronic resources purchased with other libraries within the USF System provide a wide array of scholarly materials. The close proximity of USF Tampa Library promotes access to comprehensive resources that support Ph.D. level research in USF Tampa’s Department of Government and International Affairs. Poynter Library and other libraries within the USF System have acquired numerous resources, including Lexis-Nexis (Academic and Congressional), CQ (Homeland Security, Researcher, and Weekly), Global Legal Information Network, Index to Legal Periodicals Full Text, Legal Trac, Westlaw Campus, and the University of Michigan ICPSR collection of data sets. Other resources include general academic electronic collections such as: JSTOR, Academic Search Premier, Social Sciences Full Text, Wilson Omnifile Full Text Mega, and Political Science: A SAGE Full-Text Collection, to name a few. Although the present print and electronic collections meet the needs of our undergraduate program and the research agenda of our faculty, we do have concerns about imminent budgetary reductions that may curtail monographic acquisitions or require the cancellation of electronic resources in the foreseeable future. Any reductions in library allocations will negatively impact the ability of the library to sustain the research needs of the USF St. Petersburg political science program.
Current monographic holdings (provided by Patricia Pettijohn):

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT OUR MONOGRAPHIC HOLDINGS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

GENERAL POLITICAL SCIENCE, J’S: 8,009 VOLUMES

LAW, ALL CALL NUMBERS: 5358

GENERAL LAW, K1-7720 619 VOLUMES
KF - Law of the United States 4148 VOLUMES
KZ2-6795 - Law of Nations 46

STATISTICS HA1-4737 378

HB848-3697 Demography. Population. Vital events 1870

HX Socialism, Communism, Anarchism and Utopias 845
Z 7161-7166 Political and Social Science Bibliography 64

TOTAL: 16,524