

Yaitya Ngutupira Library Collection Guidelines

March 2026

Collection overview

Yaitya Ngutupira (Kurna for *About Aboriginal Knowledges*) is a collection centred in Aboriginal knowledges, bringing together published works across diverse fields including linguistics, music, art, native title, health, social justice, politics, and cultural knowledges. Curated with cultural respect and care, the collection highlights works written by or created with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

Designed as both a teaching and research resource, Yaitya Ngutupira also showcases non-scholarly materials such as children's books, biographies and non-fiction works authored by, or with, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

The collection is available in the City East (Barr Smith Library), Mawson Lakes (Sir Eric Neale Library), Roseworthy and Waite campus libraries. It will continue to grow, with new print and digital titles regularly selected and added at each location.

The Yaitya Ngutupira collection was originally created in 2018. The collection was gifted its Kurna name by Kurna Warra Karrpanthi, through a process facilitated by Uncle Rod O'Brien, the cultural advisor for the University of Adelaide. [Audio Pronunciation of Yaitya Ngutupira](http://hdl.handle.net/2440/111795), spoken by Uncle Rod O' Brien, can be found here: <http://hdl.handle.net/2440/111795>

Selection criteria

Material will be acquired if one or more of the below criteria are met:

1. Works authored by or created with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples
2. Works that are written by or created with South Australian people, or within the Australian context.
3. Materials that demonstrate culturally safe, respectful, and accurate representation
4. Content that contributes to understanding Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures, languages, knowledges, and contemporary issues
5. Works that are written by Adelaide University staff or students
6. Works that are children's books, biographies and non-fiction works

7. Recommendations from Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander staff, students, Elders, and community.

Works that will not be selected for this collection:

1. works on physical anthropology
2. works with discriminatory or negative perspectives
3. works that include offensive and outdated terms
4. Reports involving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander deaths, critical incidents, court matters, police interactions, or related issues, except where the content reflects culturally informed, respectful, and appropriate judgement.

Format:

All new collection items will be purchased in both print and digital formats where available. Print copies of each recommended title will be ordered for every Yaitya Ngutupira collection to support access and ongoing collection development.

Responsibilities

Collection: The Associate Director Library Collections has overall responsibility for Yaitya Ngutupira, reviewing the guidelines, selection criteria and ensuring the collection is aligned to its intent.

Selection and de-selection: Responsibility for acquisition selection and collection de-selection sits with the Indigenous Collections and Archives Coordinator with input from the Indigenous Library Program Coordinator.

Acquisition: The Collection & Copyright Management team have responsibility for purchasing selected titles.