



# LIBRARY OF CONGRESS (LC) CLASSIFICATION USER GUIDE

Adapted from the Library of Congress  
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Library of Congress (LC) Classification System is divided into 21 basic classes based on subject areas, represented by letters of the alphabet. Within each basic class are more specific subclasses, using combinations of letters and numbers. LC is used for classification, organization and retrieval, and is used to organize the shelving of materials. It is currently one of the most widely used library classification systems in the world, especially in academic libraries.

<b>A</b>	General
<b>B</b>	Philosophy, Psychology, Religion
<b>C</b>	History – General
<b>D</b>	History – World
<b>E</b>	American History
<b>F</b>	Local American History
<b>G</b>	Geography, Anthropology, Sports
<b>H</b>	Social Sciences
<b>I</b>	(Not Used)
<b>J</b>	Political Science
<b>K</b>	Law
<b>L</b>	Education
<b>M</b>	Music
<b>N</b>	Fine Arts
<b>O</b>	(Not Used)
<b>P</b>	Language, Literature
<b>Q</b>	Science
<b>R</b>	Medicine
<b>S</b>	Agriculture
<b>T</b>	Technology
<b>U</b>	Military Science
<b>V</b>	Naval Science
<b>Z</b>	Bibliography, Library Science

## **EXPLANATION OF PRIMARY LC CLASSES:**

- A** Includes general reference works such as dictionaries, encyclopedias, directories, handbooks, manuals, and almanacs
- B** Includes philosophy, logic, psychology, aesthetics, ethics, religion, mythology, and rationalism
- C** Includes history of civilization and culture, archaeology, diplomatics, archives, seals, technical chronology, numismatics, epigraphy, inscriptions, heraldry, genealogy, biographies
- D** Includes history general, ancient, medieval, modern (WWI & WWII), Europe, Great Britain, and history of other countries

**E-F** Include American history and local history

**G** Includes geography, oceanography, anthropogeography, anthropology, folklore, manners and customs, and recreation

**H** Includes social sciences, statistics, economic theory, economic history, agriculture, transportation and communications, commerce, finance, sociology, social history, family/ marriage/ woman, societies, communities, social pathology, socialism/ communism / anarchism

**J** Includes official documents, political theory, constitutional history & administration, governments, colonies & colonization, and international law

**K** Includes federal law, state law, and laws of cities and individual territories

**L** Includes general topics on education, history of education, theory and practice of education, and special aspects of education

**M** Includes music compositions, literature of music, and music instruction and study

**N** Includes visual arts, architecture, sculpture, drawing/design/illustration, painting, print media, decorative arts, and arts in general

**P** Includes philology and linguistics (communication, mass media, comparative grammar, style/composition), languages, literary history (literary history, criticism, poetry, performing arts, drama, prose, essays, journalism, etc.), literature, and fiction

**Q** Includes mathematics, computer science, astronomy, physics, chemistry, natural history (nature and biology), botany, zoology, human anatomy, physiology, and microbiology

**R** Includes general and specialized medicine, pathology, internal medicine (psychology/psychiatry), special situations and conditions

**S** Includes general agriculture, plant culture, forestry, animal culture, veterinary medicine, fish culture & fisheries, and hunting

**T** Includes industrial safety & research, technical education, patents/trademarks, mechanical drawing, exhibitions (world fairs), motor vehicles, aeronautics, astronautics, photography, manufactures, arts and crafts, home economics, various forms of engineering, computers, and the Internet

**U** Includes military science, military organization/ administration, maintenance & transportation, infantry, cavalry, artillery, military engineering, and other military services

**V** Includes topics on naval science

**Z** Includes history of books, writing, paleography, book industry and trades, library and information science, and bibliographies