BACKGROUND: Terms in the Sexual Orientation category refer to the sexual orientation of the group members (gays; heterosexuals). In MARC authority records the category is represented by the three-letter code sxo. This instruction sheet provides specific guidelines on assigning terms from the Sexual Orientation category to bibliographic records and to authority records, as well as guidelines on establishing new terms in the category. For examples of MARC 21 records to which demographic group terms have been assigned, see L 410-412. For examples of MARC 21 authority records for LC demographic group terms, see L 405.

1. Assigning terms in bibliographic records and in authority records for works. There are not any special provisions for assigning terms from the Sexual Orientation category. Assign terms in accordance with L 480 and L 485.

2. Proposing terms. There are not any special provisions for establishing terms in the Sexual Orientation category. Establish terms according to the guidelines in L 435-476.