

## PREFACE

The first edition of Class H, *Social Sciences*, was published in 1910, the second in 1920, the third in 1949. The latter edition was reprinted in 1967 with supplementary pages of additions and changes. For the fourth edition, Class H was separated into two parts: H-HJ (Economics), published in 1981, and HM-HX (Sociology), published in 1980. With the 1994 edition, the two parts were reunited into a single volume. The 1997 edition incorporated changes made between 1994 and 1997, and contained a simplified subclass HJ as well as other revisions. The 2002 edition cumulated changes made between 1997 and 2002. The 2004 edition cumulated changes made between 2002 and May 2004, and included many updates to terminology used in captions. Editions published in 2005 and 2007 cumulated additions and changes that were made during the periods 2004-2005, and 2005-2006, respectively. The 2008 edition cumulated additions and changes that were approved during the period October 2006-June 2008. Annual editions were issued beginning in 2015. This 2020 edition cumulates all changes made since the 2019 edition.

In the Library of Congress Classification schedules, classification numbers or spans of numbers that appear in parentheses are formerly valid numbers that are now obsolete. Numbers or spans that appear in angle brackets are optional numbers that have never been used at the Library of Congress but are provided for other libraries that wish to use them. In most cases, a parenthesized or angle-bracketed number is accompanied by a "see" reference directing the user to the actual number that the Library of Congress currently uses, or a note explaining Library of Congress practice.

Access to the online version of the full Library of Congress Classification is available on the World Wide Web by subscription to *Classification Web*. Details about ordering and pricing may be obtained from the Cataloging Distribution Service at

[<http://www.loc.gov/cds/>](http://www.loc.gov/cds/)

New or revised numbers and captions are added to the LC Classification schedules as a result of development proposals made by the cataloging staff of the Library of Congress and cooperating institutions. Upon approval of these proposals by the editorial meeting of the Policy, Training & Cooperative Programs Division, new classification records are created or existing records are revised in the master classification database. Lists of newly approved or revised classification numbers and captions are posted on the World Wide Web at

[<http://www.loc.gov/aba/cataloging/classification/weeklylists/>](http://www.loc.gov/aba/cataloging/classification/weeklylists/)

Libby Dechman, senior cataloging policy specialist in the Policy, Training & Cooperative Programs Division, is responsible for coordinating the overall intellectual and editorial content of class H and its various subclasses. Kent Griffiths, assistant editor of classification schedules, creates new classification records and their associated index terms, and maintains the master database.

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