

Occupation/Field of Activity Category L 545

BACKGROUND: Terms in the Occupation/Field of Activity category refer to the activity or avocation associated with the group members, whether paid or unpaid (e.g., academic librarians; chess players; queens). Terms for members of religious orders (e.g., Benedictines) are not included in the Occupation/Field of Activity category; instead, they are in the Social category (see L 560).

In MARC authority records the category is represented by the three-letter code **occ**. This instruction sheet provides specific guidelines on assigning terms from the Occupation/Field of Activity category to bibliographic records and to authority records for works, 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.

a. General rule. Assign terms in accordance with L 480 and L 485 and the special provisions below.

b. Terms describing the characteristics of the creator/contributor when the resource is in the creator/contributor's area of principal activity. Do not assign a term from the Occupation/Field of Activity category when the term is redundant with the format of resource being cataloged. Such situations frequently occur when cataloging creative works. *Examples:*

The demographic group term **Composers** would not be assigned to a symphony that was created by someone who is primarily known as a composer.

The demographic group term **Composers** would be assigned to a novel written by creator who self-identifies as a composer.

2. Proposing terms.

a. General rule. Establish terms according to the guidelines in L 435-476 and the special provisions below.

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2. *Proposing terms.* (Continued)

b. *Specialties within occupations.* Do not add a parenthetical qualifier to a general term to designate a specialty within an occupation. Bring out a specialty by creating a phrase.
Example:

Criminal defense lawyers
not Lawyers (Criminal defense)

c. *Employees of specific corporate bodies.* Do not propose terms for employees of specific corporate bodies (e.g, Library of Congress employees).

d. *BT references.* Do not make a BT reference to indicate the gender, religion, or sexual orientation of the group.

e. *Categories.* Do not assign terms in the Occupation/Field of Activity category to the Gender, Religion, or Sexual Orientation categories.