

BACKGROUND: This instruction sheet provides Library of Congress catalogers with policy guidelines for assigning subject headings to an edition or a translation of a work when another edition of the same work has already been cataloged by the Library. It replaces parts of D 450, an instruction sheets that was formerly in the **Subject Cataloging Manual: General Cataloging Procedures**. For information on classifying editions, see F 175. For information on shelisting editions, see G 145

LC practice:

1. General rule. Assign the same subject heading or set of subject headings to all editions of a single work that are present in the LC database and that have an imprint date of 1981 or later.

Exception: If the content of a new edition of a work changes so significantly that its scope and focus are entirely different from earlier editions, assign the headings required to designate properly the contents of the edition being cataloged regardless of the headings assigned to the other edition(s). If the variation in content is slight, however, assign the same heading(s) to all post-1980 editions.

LC practice:

2. Changing subject headings on earlier editions. When a decision is made to assign different headings to a new edition from those assigned to the earlier edition(s) for reasons other than those described as exceptions above, change the headings of all other editions of the work in the LC Database that have an imprint date of 1981 or later, so that they match those assigned to the new edition.

Follow the procedures described in H 165 for the correction of subject headings in existing bibliographic records.

Do not change the headings on editions having an imprint date earlier than 1981.