BACKGROUND: This instruction sheet provides special guidelines for the assignment of subject headings to motion pictures, slides, filmstrips, video recordings, and other types of visual materials, as well as to non-music sound recordings. These guidelines are followed in addition to the normal rules for the assignment of subject headings.

Note: As used in this instruction sheet, the word film is understood to refer to any type of visual material.

1. General rules. Assign subject headings for all important topics mentioned in the summary statement (520 field).

If a specific topic is emphasized in order to illustrate a more general concept, assign subject headings for both the specific and the general topics.

Assign form subdivisions only to the extent that such subdivisions are applicable both to print and audiovisual media. Do not use the form subdivision –Pictorial works for visual materials.

Examples:

520 ## $a Describes the highlights of Colombia, including the production of coffee.
651 #0 $a Colombia $x Description and travel.
650 #0 $a Coffee $z Colombia.

520 ## $a Surveys the industries of India, with special emphasis on the steel industry.
650 #0 $a Industries $z India.
650 #0 $a Steel industry and trade $z India.

520 ## $a Documents the intellectual expansion in medieval Germany, as illustrated by the Nuremberg chronicle.
600 10 $a Schedel, Hartmann, $d 1440-1514. $t Liber chronicarum.
651 #0 $a Germany $x Intellectual life.
2. **Particular places.** When a topic is discussed in conjunction with a particular place, make, insofar as possible, a subject entry under both the topic and the place.  *Examples:*

- 520 ## $a Describes the oases of the Sahara.
- 650 #0 $a Oases $z Sahara.
- 651 #0 $a Sahara $x Description and travel.

- 520 ## $a Interviews with medical personnel and participants in a drug abuse treatment program in New York City.
- 650 #0 $a Drug abuse $z New York (State) $z New York.
- 651 #0 $a New York (N.Y.) $x Social conditions.

3. **Particular persons.** When a particular person is treated as illustrative of a profession or activity, assign a heading for both the person and the field of endeavor. Do not, as a general rule, treat such materials as biographies.  *Example:*

- 520 ## $a A day in the life of prizefighter Muhammad Ali as he trains for a championship bout.
- 600 10 $a Ali, Muhammad, $d 1942-
- 650 #0 $a Boxing.

4. **Special types of visual materials.**

   a. **Fiction films.** Assign topical headings with the subdivision – **Drama** (or, in the case of juvenile fiction films, the subdivision – **Juvenile films**). Assign headings of this type to the same extent that such headings are assigned to individual dramas in book form (cf. H 1780, sec. 4).

   b. **Foreign language teaching films.** Assign the heading [...] **language–Films for [...] speakers** as the first heading, and bring out any special topics by assigning additional headings.

   c. **Juvenile films.** See H 1690.

   d. **Films for the hearing impaired and for people with disabilities.** See H 1913, sec. 1.e.

5. **Moving image genre/form headings.** See H 1913.

**LC practice:**

7. **Treatment of "editions".**

   a. **Audio or visual presentations of published works.** If the contents of the printed edition and the sound recording or visual presentation are the same, the subject cataloging should match, even if it is necessary to assign new, more appropriate headings to the printed edition(s).

   b. **Identical works in different formats.** A single work is sometimes issued in more than one format, for example, as a motion picture and as a video recording, or as a cassette and as a compact disc. The subject headings for the work in all formats with records in MARC should match, even if it is necessary to correct the subject headings that were assigned when the work was originally cataloged in another format.

7. **043 fields.** Assign geographic area codes in the 043 field as appropriate.