

Plan

- Contained in CSM F 10, General Principles of Classification
- Apply when classifying works according to the Library of Congress classification system
 - May be overridden by explicit instruction and references in the schedule

In this module we will continue our exploration of the principles of LC classification, which are enumerated and explained in CSM instruction sheet F 10.

These principles form the foundation of LC classification, and should be followed unless there are explicit instructions otherwise in the classification schedules.

Plan

- In the previous module
 - Overarching principle
 - Specificity
 - Relationship to LC subject headings
- In this module
 - Topic vs. form
 - Topic vs. geographic treatment
 - Multi-topic resources
 - One topic influencing another
 - Choosing among several numbers

In the previous module, we discussed the overarching principle of LCC, that is, that resources are classified by discipline, and not by subject matter. We also discussed the principle of specificity, and the relationship between the LC subject headings assigned to a resource and the resource's classification number.

In this module, we will cover the other principles contained in CSM F 10.

Let's get started.

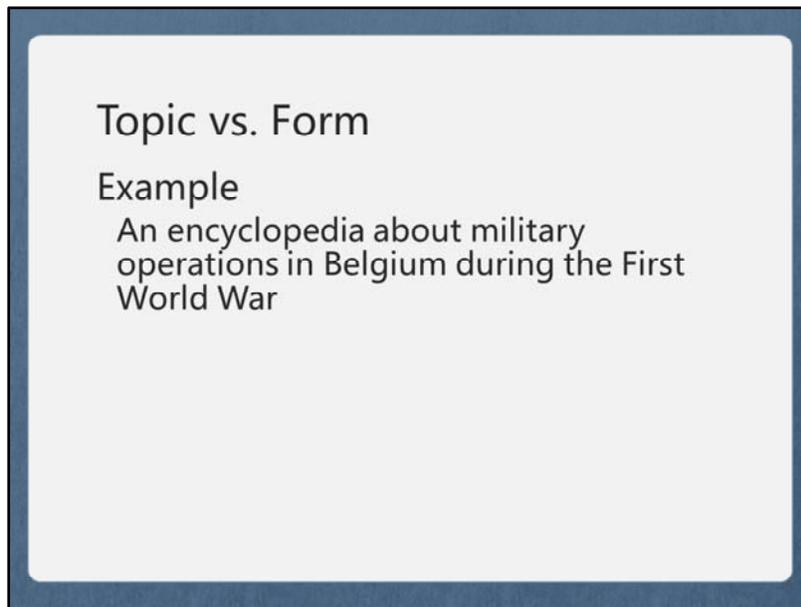
Topic vs. Form

- Class by topic, not by form
 - Form captions
 - Usually appear at high levels of hierarchy
 - Are too general for resources on more specific topics
 - Prefer to classify resources of various forms together in a single specific topical number

Sometimes we have to decide between classing a resource with the topic of the resource or with its form – a serial, an encyclopedia, a handbook, and so on.

Form captions are provided at the beginning of schedules and at the beginning of major hierarchies. Most of them are too general to use for resources on specific topics, so the preference is to classify resources with their specific topic. This means that resources of various types might be assigned the same classification number.

Let's look at some examples.



Topic vs. Form

Example

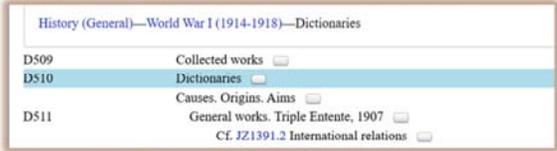
An encyclopedia about military operations in Belgium during the First World War

Our first example is an encyclopedia about military operations in Belgium during World War I.

Topic vs. Form

Example

An encyclopedia about military operations in Belgium during the First World War



History (General)—World War I (1914-1918)—Dictionaries	
D509	Collected works
D510	Dictionaries
	Causes. Origins. Aims
D511	General works. Triple Entente, 1907
	CF. JZ1391.2 International relations

One possibility is to class it in D510, which is for **Dictionaries** of World War I.

Why dictionaries?

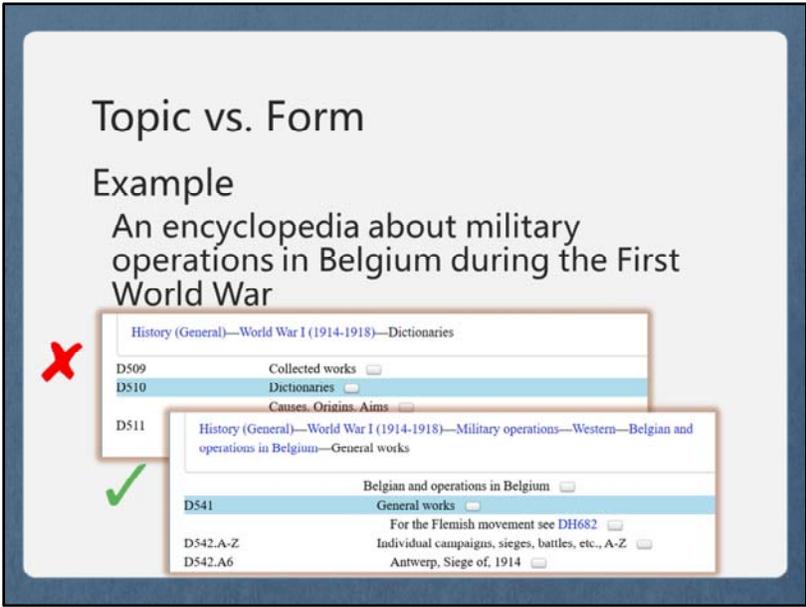
Well, both dictionaries and encyclopedias are arranged alphabetically and have entries of greater or lesser length. If you see the caption **Dictionaries** in a topic, encyclopedias can *usually* also be classed there.

This number (D510) would include general encyclopedias and dictionaries about World War I, including articles on military operations, but also perhaps short biographies of high-ranking military officers, and articles on diplomatic efforts, refugees, weapons, outcomes, and so forth. So, even though this number is appropriate for dictionaries and encyclopedias, the topical focus of the number is a bit too broad for the resource.

Topic vs. Form

Example

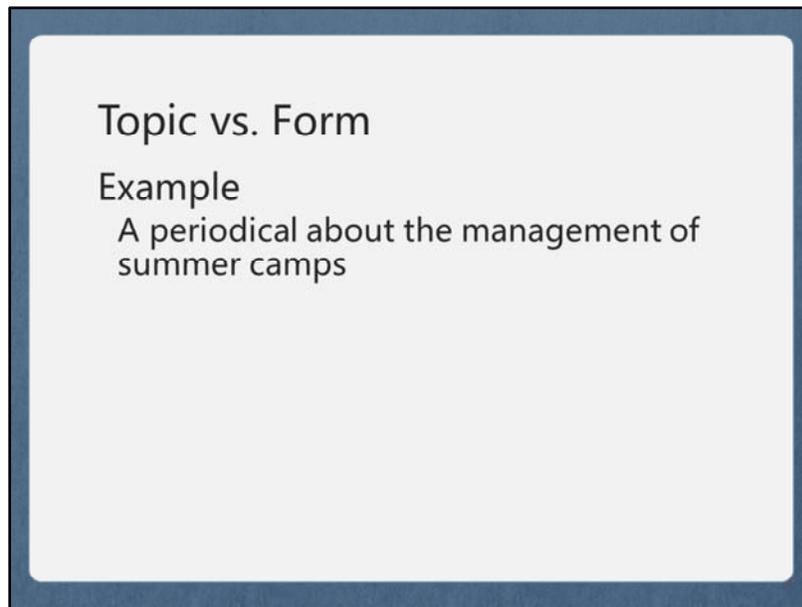
An encyclopedia about military operations in Belgium during the First World War



The screenshot shows a hierarchical classification structure. The top level is "History (General)—World War I (1914-1918)—Dictionaries". Below it are three levels: "D509 Collected works", "D510 Dictionaries", and "D511 Causes, Origins, Aims". A red 'X' is placed to the left of the "D510 Dictionaries" level. Below "D511" is another level: "History (General)—World War I (1914-1918)—Military operations—Western—Belgian and operations in Belgium—General works". Below this is "D541 Belgian and operations in Belgium". A green checkmark is placed to the left of the "D541" level. Below "D541" are two more levels: "D542.A-Z For the Flemish movement see DH682" and "D542.A6 Antwerp, Siege of, 1914".

A better number would be the one for the topic of the resource, D541. As you can see from the hierarchy, this number is for military operations in Belgium.

It is the proper place to class this resource. Resources of any form can be classed here.



Topic vs. Form

Example

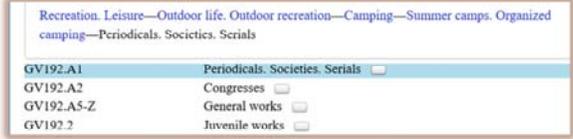
A periodical about the management of summer camps

Now here is a periodical about the management of summer camps.

Topic vs. Form

Example

A periodical about the management of summer camps



The screenshot shows a hierarchical path: Recreation, Leisure—Outdoor life, Outdoor recreation—Camping—Summer camps, Organized camping—Periodicals, Societies, Serials. Below this path is a table with four rows, each representing a classification number and its corresponding category with a checkbox.

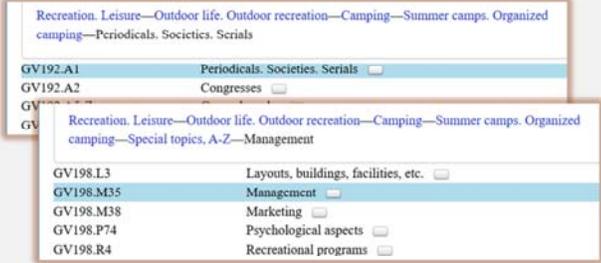
GV192.A1	Periodicals, Societies, Serials <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GV192.A2	Congresses <input type="checkbox"/>
GV192.A5-Z	General works <input type="checkbox"/>
GV192.2	Juvenile works <input type="checkbox"/>

There is a **Periodicals** number in the hierarchy for **Summer camps**, GV192.A1.

Topic vs. Form

Example

A periodical about the management of summer camps



The screenshot displays a hierarchical tree structure of the Library of Congress Classification system. The path shown is: Recreation, Leisure—Outdoor life, Outdoor recreation—Camping—Summer camps, Organized camping—Special topics, A-Z—Management. The classification number GV198.M35 is highlighted in blue. Other visible classification numbers include GV192.A1, GV192.A2, GV198.L3, GV198.M38, GV198.P74, and GV198.R4.

Recreation, Leisure—Outdoor life, Outdoor recreation—Camping—Summer camps, Organized camping—Periodicals, Societies, Serials	
GV192.A1	Periodicals, Societies, Serials
GV192.A2	Congresses
Recreation, Leisure—Outdoor life, Outdoor recreation—Camping—Summer camps, Organized camping—Special topics, A-Z—Management	
GV198.L3	Layouts, buildings, facilities, etc.
GV198.M35	Management
GV198.M38	Marketing
GV198.P74	Psychological aspects
GV198.R4	Recreational programs

There is also a number for **Management** as a **Special topic** of **Summer camps**, GV198.M35.

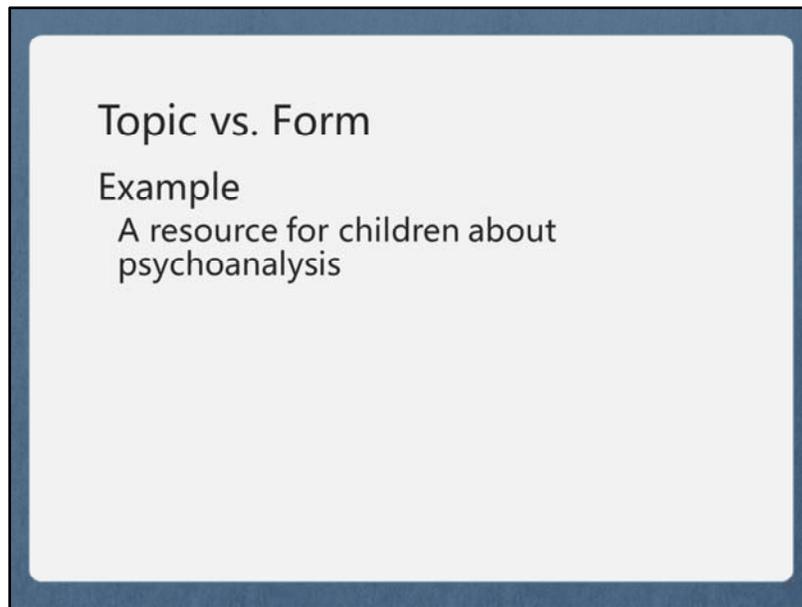
Topic vs. Form

Example

A periodical about the management of summer camps

	Recreation. Leisure—Outdoor life. Outdoor recreation—Camping—Summer camps. Organized camping—Periodicals. Societies. Serials
GV192.A1	Periodicals. Societies. Serials <input type="checkbox"/>
GV192.A2	Congresses <input type="checkbox"/>
GV198.L3	Layouts, buildings, facilities, etc. <input type="checkbox"/>
GV198.M35	Management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GV198.M38	Marketing <input type="checkbox"/>
GV198.P74	Psychological aspects <input type="checkbox"/>
GV198.R4	Recreational programs <input type="checkbox"/>

The preference is always to class with the specific topic instead of with a more general form caption, so the correct number is GV198.M35.

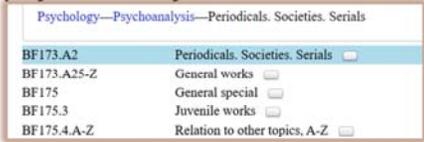


We have one final example of this principle of form versus topic, a resource for children that is about psychoanalysis.

Topic vs. Form

Example

A resource for children about psychoanalysis



Psychology—Psychoanalysis—Periodicals, Societies, Serials	
BF173.A2	Periodicals, Societies, Serials <input type="checkbox"/>
BF173.A25-Z	General works <input type="checkbox"/>
BF175	General special <input type="checkbox"/>
BF175.3	Juvenile works <input type="checkbox"/>
BF175.4.A-Z	Relation to other topics, A-Z <input type="checkbox"/>

The first possibility for classification is BF173.A25-Z, which is for **General works** about **Psychoanalysis**.

Topic vs. Form

Example

A resource for children about psychoanalysis

The image shows a screenshot of the Library of Congress Classification (LCC) hierarchy for 'Psychology—Psychoanalysis—Periodicals, Societies, Serials'. The hierarchy is displayed in a tree view with expandable/collapsible icons. The following table represents the structure shown:

Classification Code	Form Caption
Psychology—Psychoanalysis—Periodicals, Societies, Serials	Periodicals, Societies, Serials
BF173.A2	Periodicals, Societies, Serials
BF173.A25-Z	General works
BF175	General special
BF175.3	Juvenile works
BF175.4.A-Z	Relation to other topics, A-Z

There is another possibility: **BF175.3, Juvenile works** about **Psychoanalysis**. It is at the same level of hierarchy and is therefore of equal specificity. This is one case in which we are able to use the form caption, which is **Juvenile works**.

Topic vs. Form

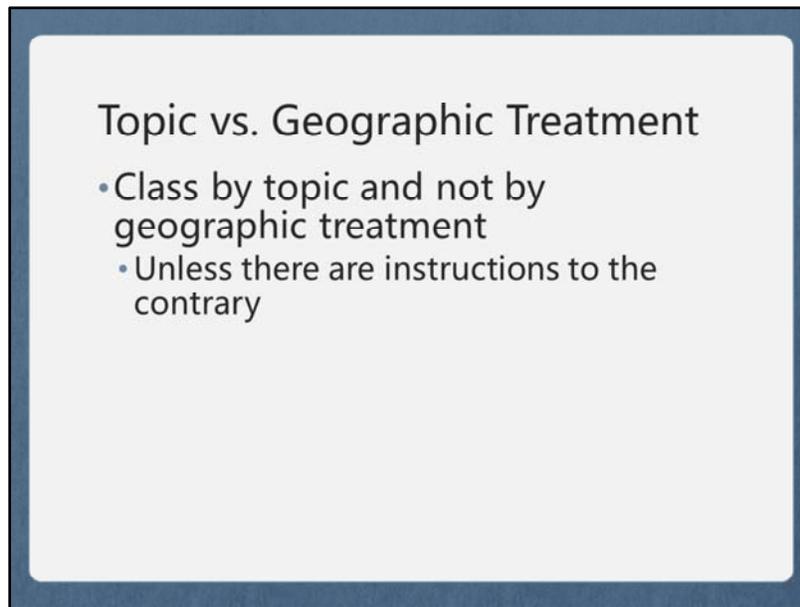
Example

A resource for children about psychoanalysis

The screenshot shows two hierarchical paths for 'Psychology—Psychoanalysis':

- Path 1 (Incorrect):** Psychology—Psychoanalysis—Periodicals, Societies, Serials (marked with a red X). This path leads to a list of categories: BF173.A2 (Periodicals, Societies, Serials), BF173.A25-Z (General works), BF175 (General special), BF175.3 (Juvenile works), and BF175.4.A-Z (Relation to other topics, A-Z). A callout box points to this path with the text 'CSM F 615, Juvenile Materials'.
- Path 2 (Correct):** Psychology—Psychoanalysis—Juvenile works (marked with a green checkmark). This path leads to the same list of categories as Path 1.

More specific information about the classification of juvenile materials – including the definition of juvenile for LC classification purposes – can be found in CSM instruction sheet F 615.

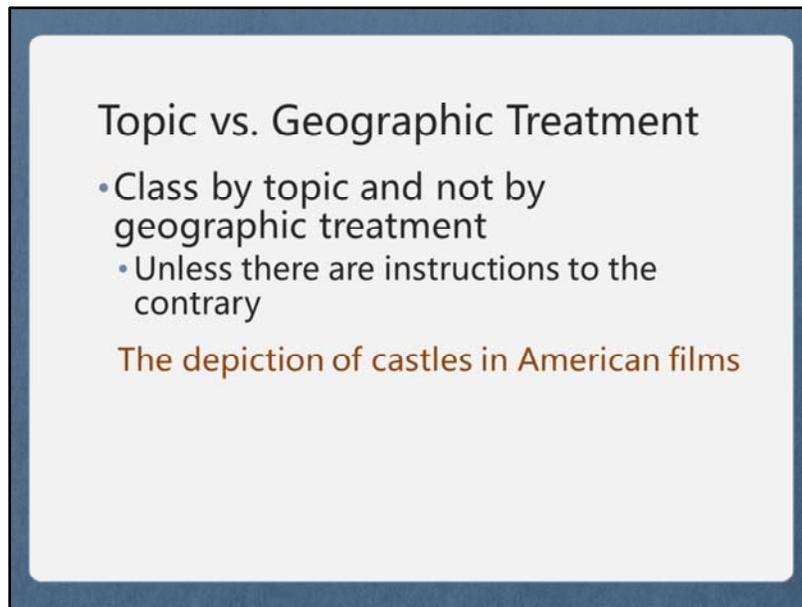


Topic vs. Geographic Treatment

- Class by topic and not by geographic treatment
- Unless there are instructions to the contrary

We have explained what to do when you have to choose between the topic and form of the resource. Now let's talk about what happens when you have to choose between the *topic* and the *geographic treatment*.

The policy is to class by topic, and *not* by geographic treatment, unless there are instructions to the contrary.



Topic vs. Geographic Treatment

- Class by topic and not by geographic treatment
 - Unless there are instructions to the contrary

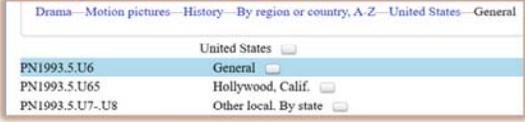
The depiction of castles in American films

Our first example is a resource about the way that castles are depicted in American films.

Topic vs. Geographic Treatment

- Class by topic and not by geographic treatment
- Unless there are instructions to the contrary

The depiction of castles in American films



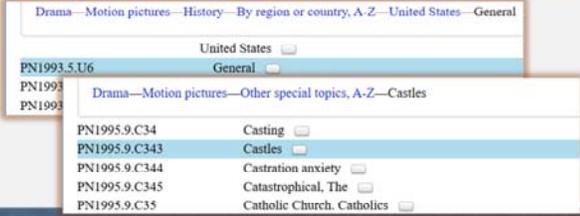
Drama—Motion pictures—History—By region or country, A-Z—United States—General	
	United States <input type="checkbox"/>
PN1993.5.U6	General <input type="checkbox"/>
PN1993.5.U65	Hollywood, Calif. <input type="checkbox"/>
PN1993.5.U7-.U8	Other local. By state <input type="checkbox"/>

One possibility is PN1993.5.U6, which is for resources about motion pictures in the United States. Note that PN1993.5.U65 is not a possibility because that number is too specific, because it only relates to films made in Hollywood. Anyway, PN1993.5.U6 reflects the geographic treatment of the resource we are cataloging.

Topic vs. Geographic Treatment

- Class by topic and not by geographic treatment
 - Unless there are instructions to the contrary

The depiction of castles in American films



The screenshot shows a hierarchical classification structure. The top level is 'Drama—Motion pictures—History—By region or country, A-Z—United States—General'. Below this, 'United States' is selected, leading to 'PN1993.5.U6 General'. A second level is shown: 'Drama—Motion pictures—Other special topics, A-Z—Castles'. This leads to a list of specific classifications: 'PN1995.9.C34 Casting', 'PN1995.9.C343 Castles', 'PN1995.9.C344 Castration anxiety', 'PN1995.9.C345 Catastrophical, The', and 'PN1995.9.C35 Catholic Church, Catholics'. The 'Castles' classification is highlighted in blue.

The second number, PN1995.9.C343, is for **Castles** as a topic in motion pictures. This number reflects the topic of the resource.

Topic vs. Geographic Treatment

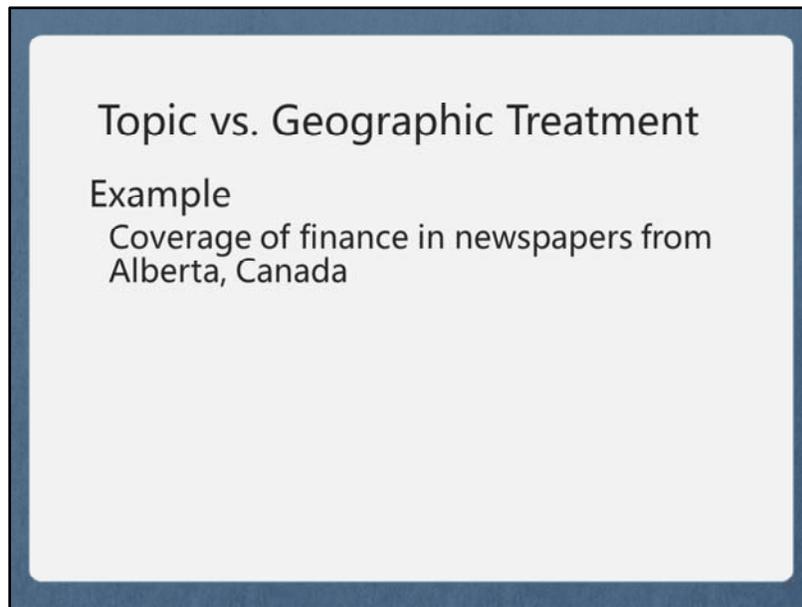
- Class by topic and not by geographic treatment
 - Unless there are instructions to the contrary

The depiction of castles in American films

The screenshot shows a hierarchical classification structure. At the top is 'Drama—Motion pictures—History—By region or country, A-Z—United States—General'. Below it is 'United States' with a dropdown arrow. Under 'United States' is 'PN1993.5.U6 General' with a dropdown arrow, marked with a red 'X'. Below that is 'Drama—Motion pictures—Other special topics, A-Z—Castles'. Under 'Castles' is 'PN1995.9.C34 Casting' with a dropdown arrow. Below 'Casting' is 'PN1995.9.C343 Castles' with a dropdown arrow, marked with a green checkmark. Below 'Castles' are 'PN1995.9.C344 Castration anxiety', 'PN1995.9.C345 Catastrophical, The', and 'PN1995.9.C35 Catholic Church, Catholics'.

According to the principle of topic vs. geographic treatment, we will use PN1995.9.C343.

Using this class number brings together resources about castles in films regardless of where they were made, and regardless of the nationality of the company that produced them. If we used the number for geographic treatment, PN1993.5.U6, then every resource about any topic in American film would have to be classed there, along with resources about American films in general. This would make a very disorganized collection.

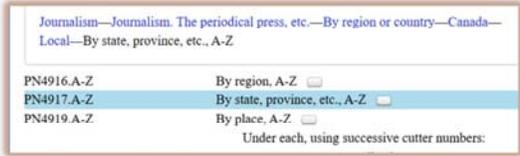


Our second example of the principle of geographic treatment vs. topic is a resource about the way that finance is covered in newspapers in Alberta, Canada.

Topic vs. Geographic Treatment

Example

Coverage of finance in newspapers from Alberta, Canada



The screenshot shows a web browser interface for the Library of Congress Classification. At the top, it displays the path: Journalism—Journalism. The periodical press, etc.—By region or country—Canada—Local—By state, province, etc., A-Z. Below this, there are three rows of classification options, each with a radio button to its right. The first row is PN4916.A-Z By region, A-Z. The second row, PN4917.A-Z By state, province, etc., A-Z, is highlighted in blue and has its radio button checked. The third row is PN4919.A-Z By place, A-Z. Below these rows, the text 'Under each, using successive cutter numbers:' is visible.

PN4916.A-Z	By region, A-Z	<input type="radio"/>
PN4917.A-Z	By state, province, etc., A-Z	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
PN4919.A-Z	By place, A-Z	<input type="radio"/>

Under each, using successive cutter numbers:

We could class it in PN4917.A-Z, which is for **Journalism** in an individual province of Canada, where the A-Z would be replaced by the cutter for Alberta.

Topic vs. Geographic Treatment

Example

Coverage of finance in newspapers from Alberta, Canada

The image shows two overlapping panels from the Library of Congress Classification browser. The top panel displays the hierarchy for 'Local—By state, province, etc., A-Z' with 'PN4917.A-Z' selected. The bottom panel displays the hierarchy for 'Special topics, A-Z—Finance' with 'PN4914.F5' selected.

Journalism—Journalism. The periodical press, etc.—By region or country—Canada—Local—By state, province, etc., A-Z	
PN4916.A-Z	By region, A-Z
PN4917.A-Z	By state, province, etc., A-Z
PN4919.A-Z	

Journalism—Journalism. The periodical press, etc.—By region or country—Canada—Special topics, A-Z—Finance	
PN4914.F45	Fiction
PN4914.F5	Finance
	Foreign language press
PN4914.F6	General works
PN4914.F62A-F62Z	By language, A-Z

We could also class it in PN4914.F5, **Finance** as a special topic in Canadian journalism.

We have to choose whether to class it with the place or with the topic, and the principle says to class with the topic.

Topic vs. Geographic Treatment

Example
Coverage of finance in newspapers from
Alberta, Canada

Journalism—Journalism. The periodical press, etc.—By region or country—Canada—
Local—By state, province, etc., A-Z

PN4916.A-Z	By region, A-Z	<input type="checkbox"/>
PN4917.A-Z	By state, province, etc., A-Z	<input type="checkbox"/>
PN4919.A-Z		

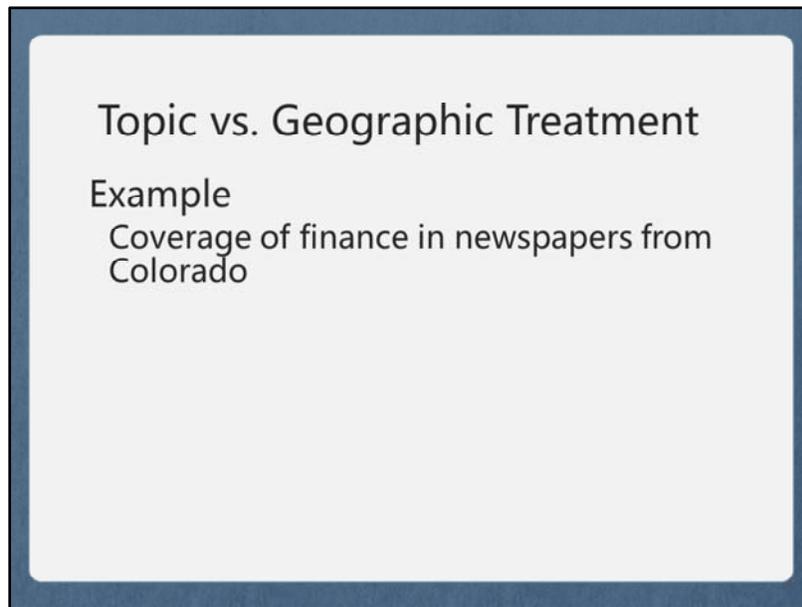
✗

Journalism—Journalism. The periodical press, etc.—By region or country—Canada—
Special topics, A-Z—Finance

PN4914.F45	Fiction	<input type="checkbox"/>
PN4914.F5	Finance	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Foreign language press	<input type="checkbox"/>
PN4914.F6	General works	<input type="checkbox"/>
PN4914.F62A-F62Z	By language, A-Z	<input type="checkbox"/>

✓

PN4914.F5 is the correct number. The place will be brought out with the subject headings, although it cannot be brought out with the classification.



Topic vs. Geographic Treatment

Example
Coverage of finance in newspapers from
Colorado

Now let's look at another resource about the newspaper coverage of finance. This time the resource is about Colorado, a state of the United States.

Topic vs. Geographic Treatment

Example

Coverage of finance in newspapers from Colorado

Journalism—Journalism. The periodical press, etc.—By region or country—America. North America—United States—Special topics—Other special topics, A-Z—Finance	
PN4888.F5	Fiction <input type="checkbox"/>
PN4888.F6	Finance <input type="checkbox"/>
PN4888.F67	Food contamination in the press <input type="checkbox"/>
PN4888.F69	Foreign news <input type="checkbox"/>

Based on the previous example, you might expect that the resource would be classed in the number for finance as a special topic in journalism in the United States, PN4888.F6. That is not correct, though, because the journalism schedule – like many LCC schedules – has an American bias.

Topic vs. Geographic Treatment

Example

Coverage of finance in newspapers from Colorado

The screenshot shows a portion of the Library of Congress Classification schedule. It highlights the path from general journalism to a specific subarrangement for finance in Colorado newspapers. The path is: Journalism—Journalism. The periodical press, etc.—By region or country—America. North America—United States—Special topics—Other special topics, A-Z—Finance. The cutter for Colorado is PN4897.A-W. Under this cutter, there is a subarrangement table for 'Local. By state, A-W'.

PN4888.F5	Fiction	<input type="checkbox"/>
PN4888.F6	Finance	<input type="checkbox"/>
PN4888.F67	Journalism—Journalism. The periodical press, etc.—By region or country—America. North America—United States—Local. By state, A-W	
PN4888.F69		
PN4897.A-W	Local. By state, A-W	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Under each:	
.x	Manuals	
	Associations see PN4844	
.x3	General works. History	
.x4	Special topics	

Here is the number for journalism in individual states of the United States, PN4897.A-W. The A-W will be replaced by the cutter for Colorado. Please look closely at the schedule. After the caption **Local. By state, A-W**, it says “Under each.” This is a subarrangement instruction, and it includes a table.

Topic vs. Geographic Treatment

Example

Coverage of finance in newspapers from Colorado

The screenshot shows a hierarchical classification structure. At the top, it lists 'Journalism—Journalism. The periodical press, etc.—By region or country—America. North America—United States—Special topics—Other special topics, A-Z—Finance'. Below this, there are three levels of classification:

- PN4888.F5 Fiction
- PN4888.F6 Finance
- PN4888.F67 Journalism—Journalism. The periodical press, etc.—By region or country—America. North America—United States—Local. By state, A-W

Under the 'Local. By state, A-W' level, there is a list of sub-classifications:

- PN4897.A-W Local. By state, A-W
- Under each:
- .x Manuals
- Associations see PN4844
- .x3 General works. History
- .x4 Special topics**

See the line **.x4 Special topics**? That allows us to bring out a special topic within a particular state.

We are not able to bring out the specific topic of finance in the call number, but this arrangement allows us to put all of the resources about special topics of journalism in Colorado together.

Topic vs. Geographic Treatment

Example

Coverage of finance in newspapers from Colorado

Journalism—Journalism. The periodical press, etc.—By region or country—America.
North America—United States—Special topics—Other special topics, A-Z—Finance

PN4888.F5 Fiction

PN4888.F6 Finance

PN4888.F67 Journalism—Journalism. The periodical press, etc.—By region or country—America.
North America—United States—Local. By state, A-W

PN4888.F69

✗

PN4897.A-W Local. By state, A-W

Under each:

- .x Manuals
- Associations see PN4844
- .x3 General works. History
- .x4 Special topics

✓

In later modules, we will explain in depth how to create cutters for geographic places and how to use tables.

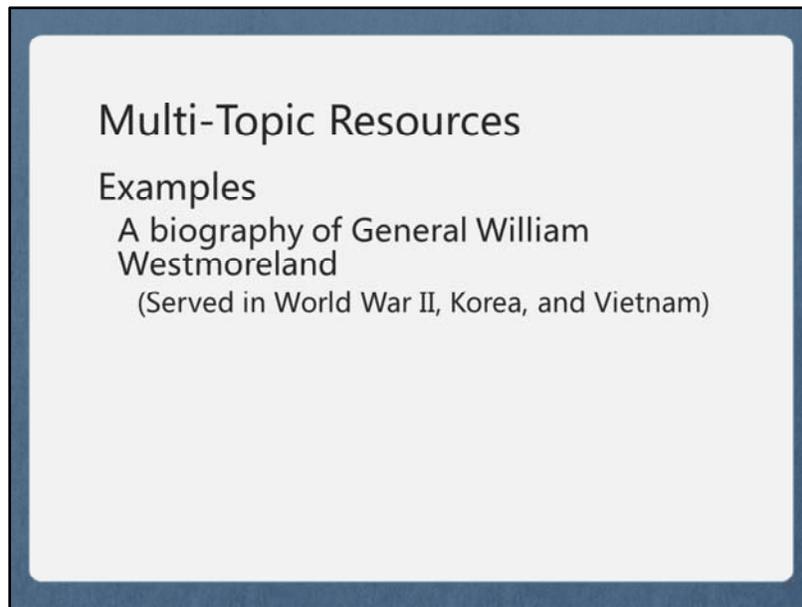
Multi-Topic Resources

- Class according to the instructions in the schedules
- Class with the dominant subject
 - If no subject is dominant, choose the first one mentioned
- Class with the broader subject if the resource deals with several topics that taken together constitute a major part of the larger subject

The next principle covers resources that are about several topics.

Sometimes instructions or references in the schedule will tell you what to do. If there are, follow them. If there are not, class the resource with the dominant subject, or with the first subject mentioned.

Another option is to class the resource with a broader subject. That is done when the resource covers several topics that taken together constitute a major part of the larger subject.



Multi-Topic Resources

Examples

A biography of General William Westmoreland
(Served in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam)

Here is an example of the schedule providing explicit instructions.

The resource is a biography of William Westmoreland, an American Army general who served in World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

Multi-Topic Resources

Examples

A biography of General William Westmoreland
(Served in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam)

United States—Twentieth century—Military history

E745 Military history

Including military biography of World War I-II and the Korean War, e.g., Claire Lee Chennault, Douglas MacArthur, George Catlett Marshall, George Smith Patton, Jonathan Mayhew Wainright

For military history of individual wars, see the war, e.g. D509-680, World War I, 1914-1918; D731-838, World War II, 1939-1945; DS918-921.7, Korean War, 1950-1953

For military societies established before 1951 see E181

For biographees whose careers extend into the Vietnam War see E840.5.A-Z

Military biographies of high-ranking officers are classified with the **Military history** of a place, so E745 is a good place to start. You can see from the hierarchy pane that the number is for the military history of the United States in the twentieth century.

There is an *Including* note: Including military biography of World War I-II and the Korean War. It also gives several examples.

Reading a bit further, military history of individual wars is classed with the war, and military societies established before 1951 are classed in E181. Neither of those two references apply to this resource, but the next one does.

Multi-Topic Resources

Examples

A biography of General William Westmoreland (Served in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam)

United States—Twentieth century—Military history

E745 Military history

Including military biography of World War I-II and the Korean War, e.g., Claire Lee Chennault, Douglas MacArthur, George Catlett Marshall, George Smith Patton, Jonathan Mayhew Wainright

For military history of individual wars, see the war, e.g. D509-680, World War I, 1914-1918; D731-838, World War II, 1939-1945; DS918-921.7, Korean War, 1950-1953

For military societies established before 1951 see E181

For biographees whose careers extend into the Vietnam War see E840.5.A-Z

“For biographees whose careers extend into the Vietnam War see E840.5.A-Z.”

Westmoreland’s career did extent into the Vietnam War, so we have to click on the hyperlink and look at the schedule at E840.5.A-Z.

Multi-Topic Resources

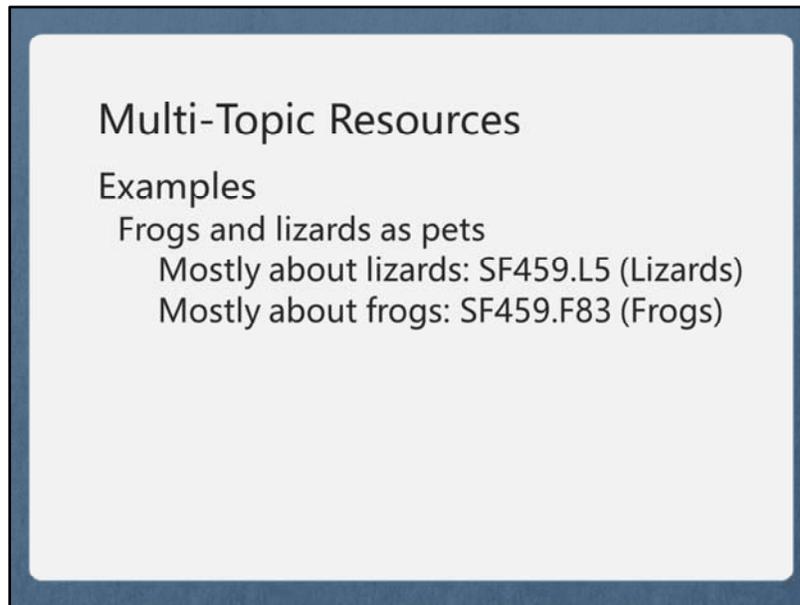
Examples

A biography of General William Westmoreland
(Served in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam)

The screenshot shows a hierarchical view of Library of Congress Classification. The main heading is 'United States—Twentieth century—Military history'. Below it, the number 'E745' is shown. A sub-heading is 'United States—Later twentieth century, 1961-2000—Military, naval and air force history—Biography, A-Z'. Under this, there are two sub-headings: 'E840.4 Military, naval and air force history' and 'E840.5.A-Z Biography, A-Z'. The 'E840.5.A-Z' sub-heading is highlighted in blue and has a 'Subarrange each by Table E1' instruction below it. At the bottom, there are two red-bordered boxes containing instructions: 'DS918-921.7, Korean War, 1950-1953' and 'For military societies established before 1951 see E181'. A final red-bordered box contains the instruction 'For biographees whose careers extend into the Vietnam War see E840.5.A-Z'.

The number is for biographies of people in the military in the latter part of the twentieth century.

The number has a *Subarrange* instruction, which we will explain when we discuss tables in a later module.



Multi-Topic Resources

Examples

- Frogs and lizards as pets
 - Mostly about lizards: SF459.L5 (Lizards)
 - Mostly about frogs: SF459.F83 (Frogs)

Other multi-topic resources have a dominant topic, and we should class them with that topic.

A resource about the relative merits of frogs and lizards as pets, should be classed with **Lizards** as pets in SF459.L5 if it is mostly about lizards. If it were mostly about frogs, it would be classed with **Frogs** in SF459.F83.

Multi-Topic Resources

Examples

Frogs and lizards as pets

Mostly about lizards: SF459.L5 (Lizards)

Mostly about frogs: SF459.F83 (Frogs)

Frogs and lizards as pets (50/50
treatment)

SF459.F83 (Frogs)

If the resource gives approximately equal coverage to frogs and lizards as pets, then it *could be* classed with either topic. We've chosen to class it with **Frogs** because that is the first pet mentioned. That could be the first one mentioned in the title, in the table of contents, in the back-of-the-book summary, or whatever other prominent source you wish to use.

Multi-Topic Resources

Examples

Frogs and lizards as pets

Mostly about lizards: SF459.L5 (Lizards)

Mostly about frogs: SF459.F83 (Frogs)

Frogs and lizards as pets (50/50 treatment)

SF459.F83 (Frogs)

Hamsters, ferrets, gerbils, snakes,
parakeets, and fish as pets

SF411-416.6 (Pets in general)

If a resource does not have a cohesive subject such as this one – a book comparing hamsters, ferrets, gerbils, snakes, parakeets, and fish as pets – then it should be classed in a more general number. That makes sense, because it would be misleading to the user to class such a resource with only one of the pets, when that one pet is just a small portion of the resource.

One Topic Influencing Another

- Class with the topic being influenced
 - Unless there are instructions to the contrary

Chinese influences on Japanese gardens

The next principle covers resources that discuss the influence of one topic on another, which is very common in scholarly writing. Those resources should be classed with the topic being influenced, unless the schedule provides instructions to the contrary.

One Topic Influencing Another

- Class with the topic being influenced
- Unless there are instructions to the contrary

Chinese influences on Japanese gardens

Plant culture—Gardens and gardening—Special styles and types of gardens—Cultural and ethnic garden styles and types—Japanese gardens	
SB457.85	Italian gardens <input type="checkbox"/>
SB458	Japanese gardens <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SB458.2	Korean gardens <input type="checkbox"/>
SB458.3	Latin gardens <input type="checkbox"/>

Our first example is a resource about the ways that Chinese culture influences Japanese gardens. It is classed in SB458, **Japanese gardens**, which is in the hierarchy of **Cultural and ethnic garden styles and types**.

One Topic Influencing Another

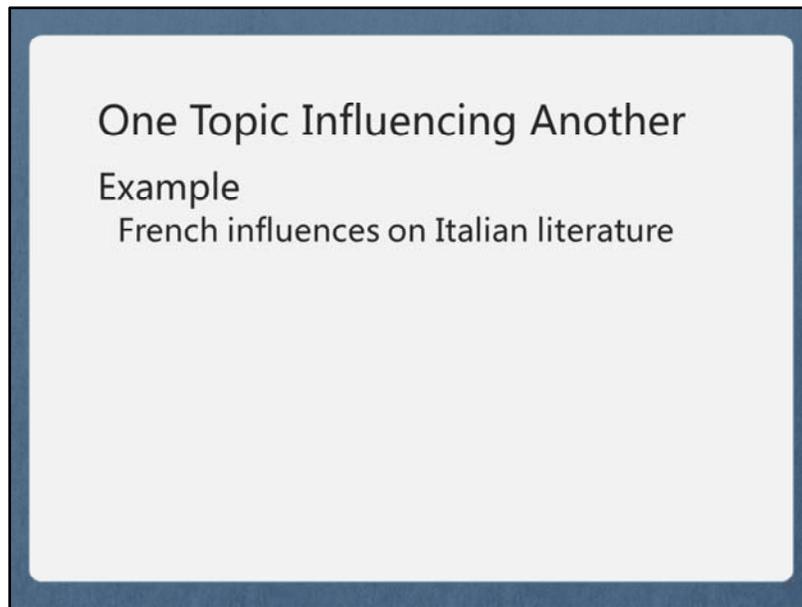
- Class with the topic being influenced
- Unless there are instructions to the contrary

Chinese influences on Japanese gardens

Plant culture—Gardens and gardening—Special styles and types of gardens—Cultural and ethnic garden styles and types—Japanese gardens	
SB457.85	Italian gardens <input type="checkbox"/>
SB458	Japanese gardens <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SB458.2	Korean gardens <input type="checkbox"/>
SB458.3	Latin gardens <input type="checkbox"/>

Japanese gardens—Chinese influences.

The first subject heading on such a resource would be **Japanese gardens—Chinese influences**. As you can see, the classification number matches the main heading, **Japanese gardens**.



Our second example is French influences on Italian literature.

One Topic Influencing Another

Example

French influences on Italian literature



The screenshot shows a hierarchical view of the Library of Congress Classification. At the top, a breadcrumb trail reads: "French literature—Literary history and criticism—History of French literature—Relations to foreign literatures and countries—Special—Modern—Italian". Below this, a list of classification numbers and their corresponding categories is shown. The number PQ143.I5 is highlighted in blue, indicating the current selection. The categories are: German, Italian, Scandinavian, Spanish, and United States, each with a small square icon to its right.

PQ143.G3	German	<input type="checkbox"/>
PQ143.I5	Italian	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
PQ143.S2	Scandinavian	<input type="checkbox"/>
PQ143.S5	Spanish	<input type="checkbox"/>
PQ143.U6	United States	<input type="checkbox"/>

It is easy to get confused and think that the resource is about French literature. As you can see, the caption on PQ143.I5 is **Italian**. We have to look at the hierarchy pane to discover that it is in the **French literature** schedule. More specifically, it is in the subhierarchy for French literature's relationship to foreign literatures and countries. In short, this number means Italian influence on French literature, the opposite of the resource we are cataloging.

One Topic Influencing Another

Example

French influences on Italian literature

French literature—Literary history and criticism—History of French literature—Relations to foreign literatures and countries—Special—Modern—Italian

PQ143.G3 German

PQ143.I5 Italian

PQ143.S2

PQ143.S5

PQ143.U6

Italian literature—Literary history and criticism—Relations to foreign literature—Special countries, A-Z—France

PQ4050.A5-Z Special countries, A-Z

e. g.

PQ4050.E5 England

PQ4050.F5 France

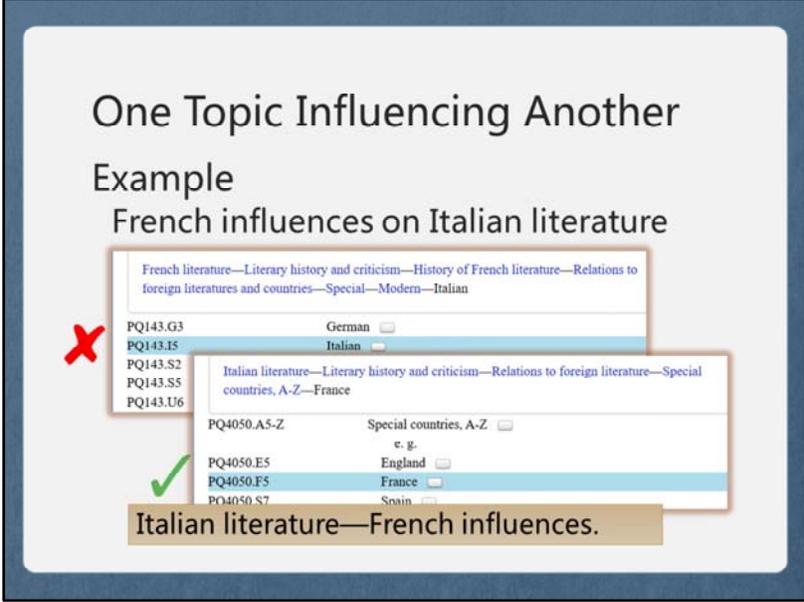
PQ4050.S7 Spain

There is a similar area in the **Italian literature** schedule. As you can see, the caption for PQ4050.F5 is **France**. Again, we will look at the hierarchy panel for context. This number refers to the relationship between Italian literature and France. This is the correct place to classify the resource.

One Topic Influencing Another

Example

French influences on Italian literature



French literature—Literary history and criticism—History of French literature—Relations to foreign literatures and countries—Special—Modern—Italian

PQ143.G3 German

PQ143.I5 Italian

PQ143.S2

PQ143.S5

PQ143.U6

Italian literature—Literary history and criticism—Relations to foreign literature—Special countries, A-Z—France

PQ4050.A5-Z Special countries, A-Z

e. g.

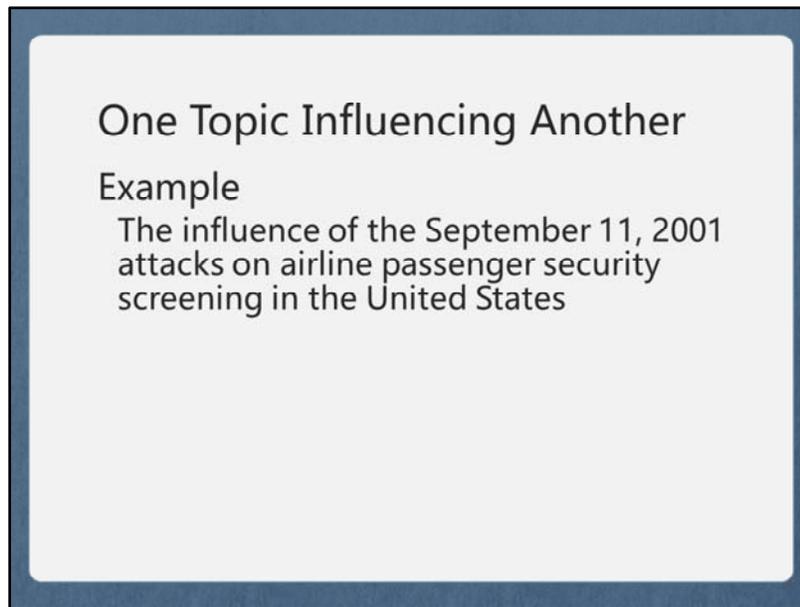
PQ4050.E5 England

PQ4050.F5 France

PQ4050.S7 Spain

Italian literature—French influences.

The first subject heading assigned to the resource would be **Italian literature—French influences**, so you can see that once again, the classification matches the main heading, **Italian literature**.



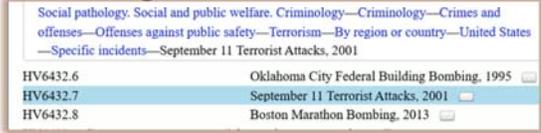
Our third example shows a different situation. It is a resource about the influence of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on airport security screening in the United States.

The topic being influenced is the security screening, so the resource has to be classed with that topic.

One Topic Influencing Another

Example

The influence of the September 11, 2001 attacks on airline passenger security screening in the United States



Social pathology. Social and public welfare. Criminology—Criminology—Crimes and offenses—Offenses against public safety—Terrorism—By region or country—United States—Specific incidents—September 11 Terrorist Attacks, 2001

HV6432.6	Oklahoma City Federal Building Bombing, 1995
HV6432.7	September 11 Terrorist Attacks, 2001
HV6432.8	Boston Marathon Bombing, 2013

It is sometimes tempting to class all of the resources about an important event together; in this case, it would mean classing this resource in the number for the terrorist attack, HV6432.7. It is important to remember that in LCC, classification is by *discipline* and not by topic, and that when one topic is influencing another, the resource is classed with the topic being influenced.

One Topic Influencing Another

Example

The influence of the September 11, 2001 attacks on airline passenger security screening in the United States

Social pathology. Social and public welfare. Criminology—Criminology—Crimes and offenses—Offenses against public safety—Terrorism—By region or country—United States—Specific incidents—September 11 Terrorist Attacks, 2001

HV6432.6 Oklahoma City Federal Building Bombing, 1995

HV6432.7 September 11 Terrorist Attacks, 2001

HV643 Motor vehicles. Aeronautics. Astronautics—Aeronautics. Aeronautical engineering—Miscellaneous aspects of the general subject—Accidents and their prevention. Air safety—By region or country—United States—General works

United States

TL553.52 General works

TL553.525.A-Z By region or state, A-Z

TL553.53.A-Z Other regions or countries, A-Z

There is not a class number specifically for airline passenger security screening, but remember that sometimes the class number is more general than the resource.

Airport passenger screening is classed with the prevention of accidents and air safety, and it has a geographic subarrangement. Air safety in the United States is classed in TL553.52, and that is where this resource should be classed.

One Topic Influencing Another

Example

The influence of the September 11, 2001 attacks on airline passenger security screening in the United States

Airline passenger security screening—United States.
September 11 Terrorist Attacks, 2001—Influence.

HV6432.6	Oklahoma City Federal Building Bombing, 1995
HV6432.7	September 11 Terrorist Attacks, 2001
HV643	Motor vehicles. Aeronautics. Astronautics—Aeronautics. Aeronautical engineering—Miscellaneous aspects of the general subject—Accidents and their prevention. Air safety—By region or country—United States—General works
TL553.52	United States—General works
TL553.525.A-Z	By region or state, A-Z
TL553.53.A-Z	Other regions or countries, A-Z

The classification number matches the first subject heading assigned, **Airline passenger security screening—United States**. We cannot bring out the concept of the September 11th attacks in the classification number, but it is represented in the second subject heading, **September 11 Terrorist Attacks, 2001—Influence**.

Choice Among Several Numbers

- If several numbers appear to be satisfactory
 - Class according to the intent of the author
 - Class where the resource would be most usefully located

The final principle is not so much a principle as instructions on what to do when the principles cannot be applied, which does happen.

First, try to apply all of the principles in CSM instruction sheet F 10:

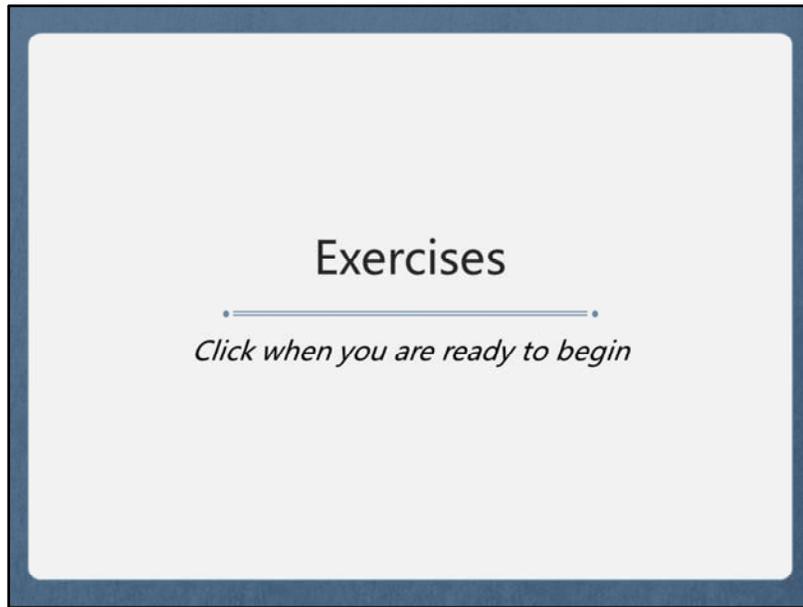
- Assign as specific a number as possible;
- Match the first (or the first two) subject headings;
- Class by topic and not by form;
- Class by topic and not by geographic treatment;
- Follow instructions in the schedules;
- Class multi-topic resources with the dominant topic, or if no topic is dominant, with the overarching topic; and
- Class with the topic being influenced,

If none of those principles help in a specific situation, you class the resource according to the intent of the author or where the resource would be most usefully located.

Sometimes the intent of the author is not obvious. Say you are cataloging a resource about the history of Washington D.C., but it also discusses the way that Washington, D.C. is depicted in American fiction. The history of Washington classes in the F schedule, while the depiction of Washington in American fiction classes in the PS schedule. Which should you use?

You would first check the resource itself to see if one of those topics is covered in greater depth, or in greater length, than the other. If not, there is not a broader topic to class the resource with because the topics are classed in different schedules. Check for the intent of the author to figure out which schedule is better. Is there an overarching thesis statement that can give you a clue? Or perhaps the author is a professor of literature; if so, then the resource is probably written from that point of view and should be classed in PS for literature.

It is also important to keep the user in mind. Search the possible numbers in your library's catalog. Are there similar resources in either class number? If so, class the resource there, because the intent of classification is to keep similar resources together.



Exercises

Click when you are ready to begin