Introduction to Free-Floating Subdivisions

This is a list of subdivisions that are authorized for free-floating use in the Library of Congress Subject Heading system. This current list was generated from data gleaned from subdivision authority records that are online in the LCSH Master Database at the Library of Congress. The Library of Congress began to create subdivision authority records to control free-floating topical, form, and chronological subdivisions in 1999. The list represents the full set of free-floating subdivisions in existence at the end of December 2010 and includes one geographic subdivision, **—Foreign countries.** New subdivisions are added and existing subdivisions are revised at monthly editorial meetings at the Library of Congress. Announcements of new and revised free-floating subdivisions are made in the Summary of Decisions accompanying the *L.C. Subject Headings Monthly Lists* that are posted to the World Wide Web at URL <http://www.loc.gov/aba/cataloging/subject/weeklylists>. New and revised subdivision authority records are distributed to subscribers in the weekly MARC Distribution Service—Subject Authorities. More information on free-floating subdivisions and their use may be found in the *Subject Headings Manual.* Questions on free-floating subdivisions may be sent to the Policy and Standards Division at policy@loc.gov.

Authorized subdivisions appear in boldface type following a long dash, e.g., **—Anatomy;—Civilization.** Some subdivisions consist of more than one subfield, e.g., **—Antiquities—Collection and preservation.** For those subdivisions that are authorized for further geographic subdivision, the legend *(May Subd Geog)* appears following the subdivision, e.g.,**—Commerce** *(May Subd Geog)*. Indented under the subdivision in the next line are the code(s) that identify the controlling instruction sheet number(s) for the subdivision in the *Subject Headings Manual* (H 1095– H 1200).

A usage note that identifies the category of the subdivision (topical, form, or chronological) and the types of headings with which its use is authorized appears with each subdivision entry. Dual entries have been made for many form subdivisions that can also function as topical subdivisions. For some subdivisions, there is an additional note with further information or restrictions on use of the subdivision, e.g., "Further subdivide by subdivisions used under classes of persons"; "Do not subdivide geographically under names of individual persons."

Cross-references similar to those made to subject headings appear with subdivision entries in this list. USE references are made from an unauthorized or non-preferred subdivision term to an authorized or preferred subdivision, e.g., —Anniversary celebrations USE—Anniversaries, etc.; —Assimilation, Cultural USE—Cultural assimilation. Under authorized subdivisions, tracings of those references appear following the code UF (Used For). UF references that represent earlier forms of a subdivision are identified by the legend *[Former subdivision]*. Authorized subdivisions are linked to each other hierarchically by reciprocal BT/NT references. BT references represent broader term subdivisions while NT references represent narrower term subdivisions.

COVERAGE

The free-floating subdivision list contains 3,601 subdivisions established through January 2013.

CONTACT

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