Library of Congress
Subject Headings

Module 4.8
Title and Name/Title Access Points as Subjects

Recap and Plan

- Most title and name/title access points may be use as subjects
  - Some exceptions
- This module
  - More discussion and examples
  - Assigning additional headings
  - Subdivisions used with title and name/title access points

In Module 4.4, Introduction to Descriptive Access Points as Subject Headings, we provided an overview of the use of name and name/title access points as subject headings, and briefly considered some exceptions to the general rules.

In this module, we will provide more details along with numerous examples. We will also briefly provide some information about adding subdivisions to title and name/title access points.

This module is based on H 1435, Commentaries on Individual Works. We will not be covering every rule contained in that instruction sheet, so we strongly recommend that you read it.

Definition of Terms

- **Resource**
  - The book, film, etc., that is being cataloged
  - Commentary or criticism
- **Original work**
  - The resource that the resource we are cataloging is about

Before we get started, we need to define two of the terms that we will be using in this module.

Throughout this training, we try to avoid the use of the word "work," because it has various meanings in cataloging theory. Instead, we have chosen to use the word "resource" because it is more neutral and refers to any book, art work, electronic resource, film, etc., that a library might include in its catalog. In the context of this module, it generally refers to any publication – in any format – that is about an "original work."

For this module, "original work" is defined as the book, painting, film, etc., that is the subject of the resource we are cataloging. We chose the phrase "original work" because it is the language used in SHM instruction sheet H 1435. The meaning of the phrase is not always equivalent to the definition of "work" in Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records, or FRBR, which is an entity-relationship model for bibliographic data.

Now that we understand the definitions of resource and original work as used in this module, we can begin our discussion of the use of title and name/title access points as subject headings.
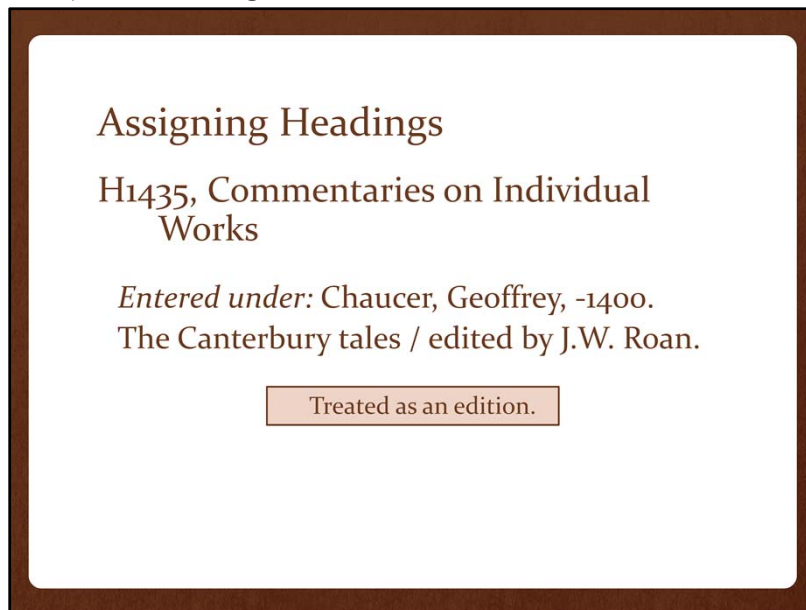
H 1435, Commentaries on Individual Works, provides guidelines for cataloging resources about an original work.

The background statement begins,

> A commentary is a work that criticizes or comments on another work. It may be published independently or in conjunction with the text of the original work. If a commentary is published with the original work, the decision to treat the item for subject cataloging purposes, as an edition of the original work or as a commentary should parallel the treatment decision made by the descriptive cataloger.

Assigning Headings

H1435, Commentaries on Individual Works

Entered under: Chaucer, Geoffrey, -1400.
The Canterbury tales / edited by J.W. Roan.

Treated as an edition.

If a resource is entered under the access point for the original work, then it is treated as an edition of the original work and subject headings are assigned in accordance with the rules governing the original work and the instruction sheet for editions, H 175.

This example on your screen is an edition of the *Canterbury Tales* by Geoffrey Chaucer. It is entered under Chaucer's name, so it is treated as an edition for subject cataloging purposes, not as a commentary.

Assigning Headings

H1435, Commentaries on Individual
    Works

Entered under: Roan, J. W.
The Canterbury tales : a commentary / by
    J.W. Roan.

Treated as a commentary.

Resources that are entered under the access point for the commentary, such as this commentary on the *Canterbury Tales*, are treated as commentaries and the provisions of H 1435 apply.

Assigning Headings

H1435, Commentaries on Individual Works

Entered under: Chaucer, Geoffrey, -1400.
The Canterbury tales : a new edition, with commentary / by J.W. Roan.
Additional access point: Roan, J. W.
The commentary is 50 percent of the resource

Treated as both an edition and a commentary.

It is common for a resource to include both an edition of the original work and a commentary on that work. Oftentimes the commentary is contained only in a short introduction or afterward, and is generally ignored for subject cataloging purposes.

There are times, however, when the commentary is 20 percent or more of the resource. In those cases, the resource is assigned subject headings appropriate to the original work plus headings relevant to the commentary. The rules in H 1435 apply, as do the rules in any other instruction sheets pertinent to the original work.

That is the case in this example. It is entered under Chaucer's name as the creator of the original work, but half of it is a commentary. We will be talking in much more depth about this "20 percent rule" in the next unit, by the way.

The first subject heading assigned to commentaries is generally the title or name/title access point of the original work. There are some restrictions on the access points that can be used as subjects, though. First let's talk about which access points for original works can be assigned as subjects.

Choosing the Descriptive Access Point

• Established in the NAF

    Aristotle. Poetics

    Beowulf

    Bible. Matthew

    Confucius. Lun yu

    Star Wars (Motion picture)

    Thoreau, Henry David, 1817-1862. Civil
        disobedience

Most of the title and name/title access points that are established with an authority record in the NAF are eligible for use as subjects, and the NAF should be the first place you look to find an access point that you can use as a subject heading.

The heading is used as it is established, including any parenthetical qualifiers. Notice that part and section titles are valid for use as subjects. The Gospel of Matthew is part of the Bible, and the heading for it can be assigned as a subject.

Choosing the Descriptive Access Point

• "Established" in a bibliographic record for the resource

> **Comparative history of civilizations in Asia**
>
> **Meagher, Timothy J. Columbia guide to Irish American history**
>
> **Turow, Scott. Burden of proof**

If the desired title or name/title access point is not in the NAF, the access point as established in the bibliographic record for the original work may be used instead.

Sometimes your own library has not acquired the original work. In that case, you will have to search other library catalogs or a bibliographic utility like OCLC or SkyRiver to determine the original title and how the work was entered.

As of July 2016 when we are recording this module, none of descriptive access points you see on your screen were established in the authority file, so the name/title or title entry used in the bibliographic record should be used as a subject.

Choosing the Descriptive Access Point

• "Established" in a bibliographic record for the resource
  • Do not include the other title information in the subject heading

  Japanese foreign policy at the crossroads : challenges and options for the twenty-first century / Yukata Kawashima.

  Kawashima, Yukata, 1942- Japanese foreign policy at the crossroads.

If you are using the access point as established in a bibliographic record, the other title information (the subtitle) should not be included in the subject heading.

Choosing the Descriptive Access Point

- Ineligible access points
  - Those that reflect a translation or other language form

    ✓ **Kant, Immanuel, 1724-1804. Kritik der reinen Vernunft**

    ✗ **Kant, Immanuel, 1724-1804. Kritik der reinen Vernunft. English**

    ✗ **Kant, Immanuel, 1724-1804. Critique of pure reason**

When selecting the title or name/title access point to use as the subject, it is important to find the access point that reflects the original work in the original language.

Access points that reflect a translation or other language form of the original work cannot be assigned as subject headings.

Therefore, even if you were assigning subject headings to an English-language resource that referred to the English title *The Critique of Pure Reason*, you would assign the German-language access point because *Critique of Pure Reason* was originally written in German.

You would not assign an authorized access point that includes the addition of "English," as you see in the second example on your screen. And you also would not create an access point for the English title of the original work, as in the third example on the screen.

We should also mention that the instructions for establishing title and name/title access points sometimes require that a language other than the original language be used as the basis for the access point. For example, certain ancient and medieval works, such as Homer's *Odyssey*, are established in a conventional English form instead of in the original language. In those cases, use the access point as established.

Choosing the Descriptive Access Point

• Ineligible access points
  • Those that reflect a translation or other language form
    • Exception: Access points for versions of sacred works in a particular language (see SHM H 1300)

        ✓ **Bible. Urdu**

        ✓ **Tripitaka. English**

There is a special rule for sacred works that allows us to include the language that appears in the descriptive access point in the subject heading.

Please see *Subject Headings Manual* instruction sheet H 1300 for details on the very specific situations in which you are allowed to do this.

Choosing the Descriptive Access Point

• Ineligible access points
  • Those that include the addition **Selections**

  ✓ **Burns, Robert, 1759-1796. Poems**

  ✗ **Mandela, Nelson, 1918-2013. Speeches.
      Selections**
  ✓ **Mandela, Nelson, 1918-2013. Speeches**

Access points that include a conventional collective title, such as *Poems* or *Plays*, may be used as subject headings.

However, the addition "Selections" cannot be used, and must be removed before assigning the access point as a subject.

Choosing the Descriptive Access Point

• Ineligible access points
  • Elements such as the, translator, version, edition, publication date, etc., are not valid for subject use

  ✗ Qur'an. 2015

  ✗ Qur'an. English (Ahamad)

  ✓ Qur'an

  ✓ Qur'an. English

Access points that include some other additions may not be assigned as subject headings, either.

In these examples you can see that an access point for the *Qur'an* that includes a date is not eligible, and neither is a heading that includes the name of the translator or the name of the version.

Companion Headings for Commentaries

- Topical headings assigned to the original work
  - Adjusted as necessary for the context of the commentary

Commentaries are assigned other headings in addition to the title or name/title access point for the original work. The rule is to assign the same headings as would be assigned to an edition of the original work itself, with some exceptions.

Let's go back to the example of *The Canterbury Tales*.

Assigning Headings

H1435, Commentaries on Individual
    Works

Entered under: Chaucer, Geoffrey, -1400.

The Canterbury tales / edited by J.W. Roan.

**Christian pilgrims and pilgrimages—
England—Canterbury—Poetry.**

Here is the edition of *The Canterbury Tales* that we saw earlier.

It is assigned a single heading, **Christian pilgrims and pilgrimages—England—Canterbury—Poetry.**

Assigning Headings

H1435, Commentaries on Individual Works

Entered under: Roan, J. W.

The Canterbury tales : a commentary / by J.W. Roan.

> **Chaucer, Geoffrey, -1400. Canterbury tales.**
> ✗ **Christian pilgrims and pilgrimages—England—Canterbury—Poetry.**

Now this is a commentary on *The Canterbury Tales*. It is assigned the established name/title access point for the original work.

We would normally also assign the same heading that was assigned to the edition of *The Canterbury Tales*, but we cannot do that in this case, because its final subdivision on that heading is a form subdivision that says that this is a work of poetry. The commentary is *not* poetry.

Assigning Headings

H1435, Commentaries on Individual
      Works

Entered under: Roan, J. W.

The Canterbury tales : a commentary / by
      J.W. Roan.

**Chaucer, Geoffrey, -1400. Canterbury
      tales.**

**Christian pilgrims and pilgrimages in
      literature.**

We therefore have to search LCSH for the appropriate topical heading for the same general concept.
In this case, **Christian pilgrims and pilgrimages—England—Canterbury—Poetry** is replaced by
Christian pilgrims and pilgrimages in literature.

We cannot just remove the form subdivision **–Poetry** because then the cataloging would indicate that
the resource is about Christian pilgrims and pilgrimages in Canterbury, which would be nonfiction
and inaccurate for the resource.

Perhaps you are wondering where the Canterbury, England, portion of the original heading went. If
the commentary were really about the depiction of Canterbury in literature, then the heading
Canterbury (England)—In literature could be assigned. However, if you have ever read *The
Canterbury Tales*, you know that it is not really about Canterbury. It consists of the tales told by the
pilgrims as they made their way *to* Canterbury.

Assigning Headings

H1435, Commentaries on Individual
     Works

Entered under: Chaucer, Geoffrey, -1400.

The Canterbury tales : a new edition, with
     commentary / by J.W. Roan.

Additional access point: Roan, J. W.

     The commentary constitutes 50 percent

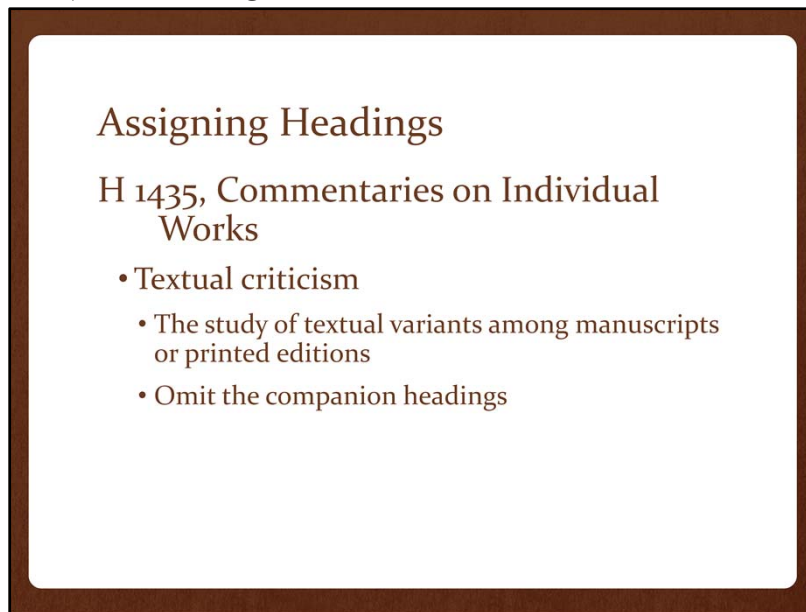Now, this is the edition that includes an extensive commentary.

Assigning Headings

H1435, Commentaries on Individual Works

Edition with extensive commentary

> **Christian pilgrims and pilgrimages—England—Canterbury—Poetry.**
>
> **Chaucer, Geoffrey, -1400. Canterbury tales.**
>
> **Christian pilgrims and pilgrimages in literature.**

Here we assign the heading that is appropriate for the edition of the original work, followed by the headings that are appropriate for the commentary.

Assigning Headings
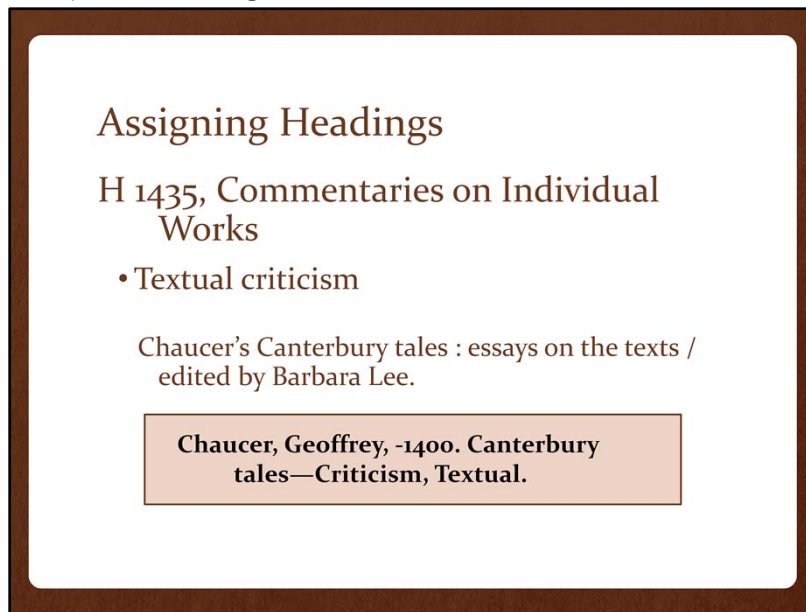
H 1435, Commentaries on Individual
Works

- Textual criticism
  - The study of textual variants among manuscripts or printed editions
  - Omit the companion headings

The situation is different if the commentary is textual criticism and not about the themes or contents of the original work.

Textual criticism is the study of variants among manuscript versions or printed editions.

When cataloging textual criticism, do not assign the companion headings. Assign only the title or name/title access point for the original work, and subdivide it if possible.

Assigning Headings

H 1435, Commentaries on Individual
Works

- Textual criticism

Chaucer's Canterbury tales : essays on the texts /
edited by Barbara Lee.

**Chaucer, Geoffrey, -1400. Canterbury
tales—Criticism, Textual.**

Here you can see what the subject cataloging looks like for a textual criticism of *The Canterbury Tales.*

Assigning Headings

• Edition of a resource

Entered under: Elischer, Sebastian, 1979-

Political parties in Africa : ethnicity and
party formation / Sebastian Elischer.

Political parties—Africa.

Africa—Ethnic relations—Political aspects.

Let's look at a nonfiction example.

Political Parties in Africa: Ethnicity and Party Formation is assigned

> **Political parties—Africa** and
> **Africa—Ethnic relations—Political aspects**.

A commentary about Elischer's book would be assigned the name/title access point, along with the headings that were assigned to *Political Parties in Africa* itself:

       Political parties—Africa   and
       Africa—Ethnic relations—Political aspects.
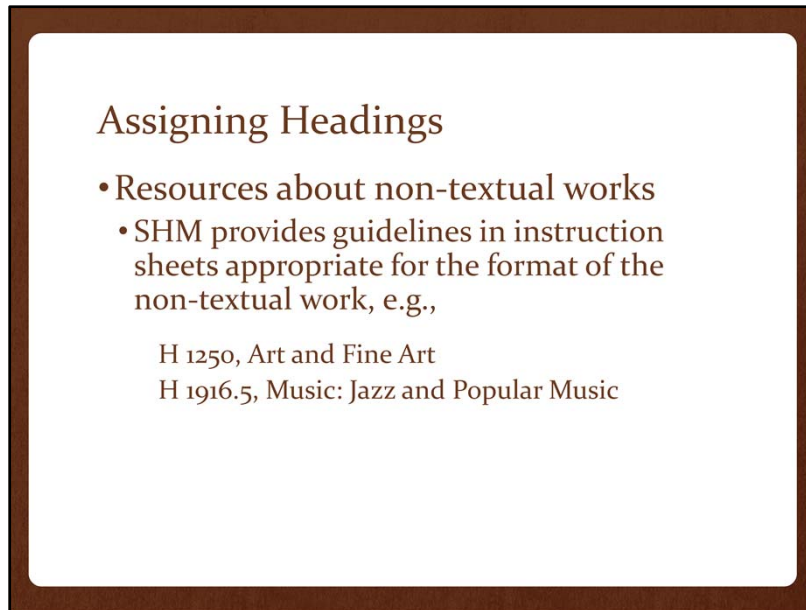
Assigning Headings

• Commentary about a resource

Entered under: Elischer, Sebastian, 1979-
Political parties in Africa : ethnicity and
    party formation / Sebastian Elischer; with
    a commentary and notes by John Wang.

> **Political parties—Africa.**
>
> **Africa—Ethnic relations—Political aspects.**
>
> **Elischer, Sebastian, 1979- Political parties in
>   Africa.**

Here is an edition of the original work with commentary.

The only difference between this and the commentary without the original work is that the headings
are in a different order.

The headings for the edition of the original work are provided first because the edition is considered
to be of primary importance. The name/title heading is appropriate to the commentary and is
considered to be secondary to the main purpose of the resource being cataloged. The order of the
subject headings will be significant when the resource is given an LC classification number, since it
will be classed as an edition of the original work.

Assigning Headings

- Resources about non-textual works
  - SHM provides guidelines in instruction sheets appropriate for the format of the non-textual work, e.g.,

    H 1250, Art and Fine Art
    H 1916.5, Music: Jazz and Popular Music

So far all of our examples have been of textual resources, but non-textual resources are also established with title or name/title access points.

Resources about individual non-textual works are not cataloged using H 1435. Instead, guidelines and rules are provided in instruction sheets appropriate for the format.

For example, resources about individual artworks are cataloged according to H 1250, Art and Fine Art, and H 1916.5 covers resources about jazz and popular music.

Let's look at some examples from the world of art.

Say we are cataloging a resource about Monet's *Woman with a parasol--Madame Monet and Her Son.*

Assigning Headings

• Resources about non-textual works

From H 1250, Art and Fine Art

> 3. **Single art works.**
>
> a. **Rules for assignment of headings.** Assign the name of the art work as the first subject heading to works about a single art work. Assign as additional headings the same types of headings that would be assigned to works about art by a single artist. …

We would consult H 1250, section 3, which describes how to catalog resources about single art works. It says,

> Assign the name of the art work as the first subject heading to works about a single art work. Assign as additional headings the same types of headings that would be assigned to works about art by a single artist.

Section 2, which we will not produce for you here, describes the rules for cataloging a resources about a single artist.

Assigning Headings

• Resources about non-textual works

Claude Monet's Woman with a parasol / Michelle James.

> **Monet, Claude, 1840-1926. Woman with a parasol.**
>
> **Monet, Claude, 1840-1926—Criticism and interpretation.**
>
> **Impressionism (Art)—France.**

By following those rules, we would assign the headings:

Monet, Claude, 1840-1926. Woman with a parasol.
Monet, Claude, 1840-1926—Criticism and interpretation. and
Impressionism (Art)—France.

Note that Monet was French, but the name/title access point was established in English. As with some ancient and medieval textual works, art works that have conventional English titles are usually established in English.
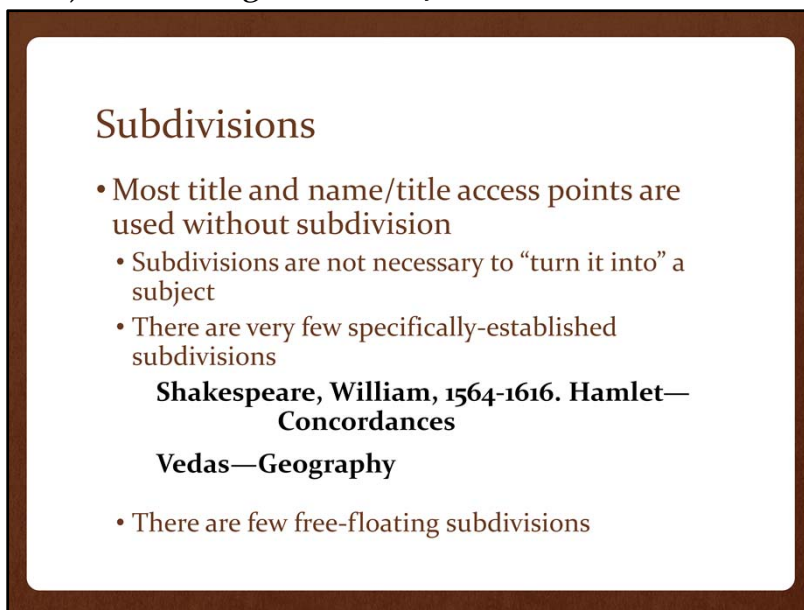
A resource about the painting *Still Life with Figs and Bread* by Luis Meléndez would be assigned similar headings.

The first is the name/title for the original work, followed by Meléndez's name heading subdivided by **–Criticism and interpretation**, and then the heading **Still-life painting, Spanish.**

You probably have noticed that we have added very few subdivisions to the title and name/title access points in our examples.

The fact is that most headings of this type are assigned without any subdivisions at all, for three reasons.

First, the descriptive access point becomes a subject heading because it is assigned as a subject heading. Despite a common misperception, nothing more needs to be done to it to "turn it into" a subject.

Second, there are very few specifically established subdivisions for title and name/title access points in LCSH. A few are established for Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and some other works of literature, but most of them are established with the titles of sacred works like the Vedas.

Finally, there are very few free-floating or pattern subdivisions designated for use with title and name/title access points.
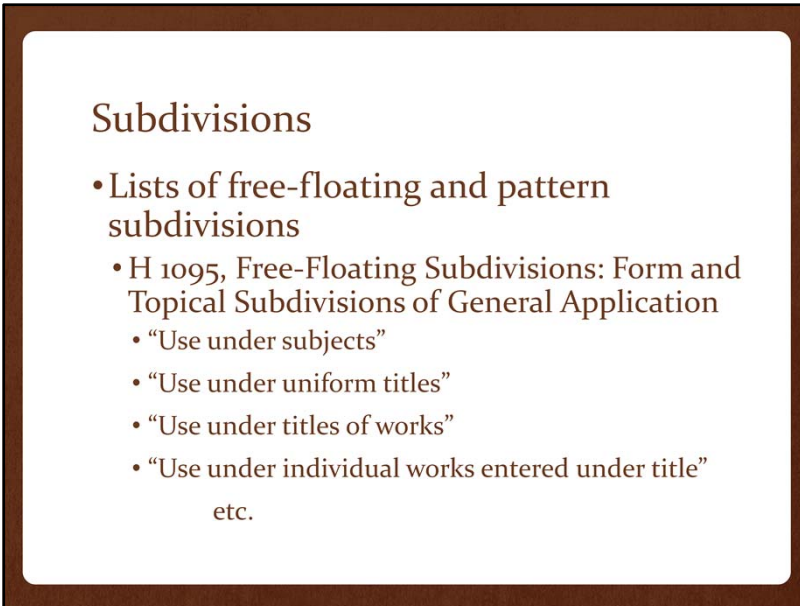
The lists of free-floating subdivisions established specifically for use under title and name/title access points used as subject headings are :

       H 1155.6, Literary Works Entered Under Author
       H 1155.8, Literary Works Entered Under Title
       H 1160, Musical Compositions
       H 1188, Sacred Works

Note that they are limited to literary works, musical compositions, and sacred works. This excludes most of the bibliographic universe. Headings for historical, philosophical, scientific, social science, political science, and non-sacred religious titles, and so on, are not subdivided, unless they fall into one of the categories pertinent to them in H 1095.

Subdivisions

- Lists of free-floating and pattern subdivisions
  - H 1095, Free-Floating Subdivisions: Form and Topical Subdivisions of General Application
    - "Use under subjects"
    - "Use under uniform titles"
    - "Use under titles of works"
    - "Use under individual works entered under title"
      etc.

Any subdivision in H 1095 that has the instruction "Use under subjects" may be used with a title or name/title access point.

There are also some other instructions that indicate a subdivision may be used under a title access point, such as "use under uniform titles" and "use under individual works entered under title." Read the instructions in H 1095 carefully, and think about whether the specific title or name/title access point you are assigning fits into the category being described.

We will explain much more about the use of subdivisions in Unit 6.