

Project Plan

Project Name: Expansion of subject headings for Scientology

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Approved project plans will be posted on the SACO website. Please select one of the following options:

- Post my project plan as is, with all project team members listed.
- Edit my project plan to remove project team members' names and provide contact email only.

Project Vision Statement

This project will expand the subject access for books about Scientology and Dianetics to more closely align with other religions (primarily by adding numerous headings following the pattern of Topic \$x Religious aspects \$x Scientology).

Outcomes and Benefits

This project will enable patrons to find materials on specific aspects of Scientology such as child-rearing or self-control. Right now, there are no headings for Topic \$x Religious aspects \$x Scientology despite their being multiple works that could use greater specificity beyond just the generic Scientology heading. There are also a few works in LC's catalog that use headings following this pattern that have not been established (I have included them in my work since we have the same materials in our catalog).

Authoritative Resources

I am mainly using the works themselves; San Diego State has one of the largest collections of Scientology materials in the United States and most of the proposals quote directly from these sources.

Project Scope Statement

I am cataloging materials for San Diego State related to Scientology as part of our Special Collections backlog. My goal is to provide greater discoverability for these materials through the proposal of new subject headings to demonstrate how Scientologists view specific topics, such as child-rearing or personal finances.

Project Roadmap

Most of the work on proposals is straight forward (since it follows the patterns in the SHM for religious aspects) and the classification expansion is also already scheduled. I just have a handful of questions on how detailed the proposals should be since many of the religious aspects headings have minimal details.

Estimates

Please provide the following estimates to help us understand the full range of labor needs.

Project duration

I am hoping this project will finish in 2026. As of February 2026, I have slightly more than 30 headings

Number of new proposals:

~40.

Number of change/cancel proposals:

1-2 (I don't expect many since the number of headings is minimal)

Number of validation records:

0

Bibliographic file maintenance (BFM):

~30-50 (many are for the addition of terms so it would be up to Library of Congress; headings with Church such as ex-church members and/or church and state should be changed because they refer to Christianity per the current hierarchy)

Would this project require changes to existing Library of Congress manuals or other public documentation (e.g., SHM, CONSER Manual, RDA MGDs, etc.)?

No

Would this project require changes to existing Library of Congress training or necessitate new training materials?

No

Last updated: December 19, 2024