

Moving Image Genre/Form Headings H 1913

BACKGROUND: Moving image works are defined as those created by recording moving visual images, with or without sound. Individual moving image works are usually cataloged in the Motion Picture/Broadcasting/Recorded Sound Division (M/B/RS) of the Library of Congress. This instruction sheet provides special guidelines for the assignment of genre/form headings to works cataloged by M/B/RS. For guidelines on assigning subject headings to bring out the content of individual moving image works, see H 2230.

Note: As used in this instruction sheet and in the genre/form headings themselves, the term **films** refers to works that are originally recorded and released on motion picture film, on video, or digitally. The phrase **television programs** refers to those works that are originally telecast.

1. Assignment of genre/form headings.

a. General rule. Assign genre/form headings to both fiction and nonfiction works. Headings may be assigned from different levels of the same hierarchy if desired.

b. Limiting to fiction or non-fiction. Also assign one of the headings in the following list to each work to distinguish between fiction and nonfiction treatments of a subject:

Fiction films
Nonfiction films
Fiction television programs
Nonfiction television programs

Examples:

Title: Till the clouds roll by.
655 #0 \$a Biographical films.
655 #0 \$a Fiction films.

Title: Survivor : Thailand.
655 #0 \$a Survival television programs.
655 #0 \$a Nonfiction television programs.

H 1913 Moving Image Genre/Form Headings

1. Assignment of genre/form headings.

b. Limiting to fiction or non-fiction.

Examples: (Continued)

Title: Harlan County, U.S.A.
655 #0 \$a Documentary films.
655 #0 \$a Nonfiction films

c. Short films or Feature films. Additionally, for motion pictures assign either **Short films** or **Feature films** as appropriate. Short films are defined as those running less than 40 minutes, and feature films are full-length films running 40 minutes or longer.

d. Multiple genres. Assign as many genre/form headings as necessary to bring out important forms and genres to which the work belongs. *Example:*

Title: The Wizard of Oz
655 #0 \$a Musical films.
655 #0 \$a Fantasy films.
655 #0 \$a Children's films.
655 #0 \$a Film adaptations.
655 #0 \$a Fiction films.
655 #0 \$a Feature films.

e. Moving image works for people with disabilities.

(1) Hearing impaired. Assign either **Films for the hearing impaired** or **Television programs for the hearing impaired** to all moving-image works produced with captions or sign language for viewing by the hearing impaired.

Do not assign this heading to works in one language with subtitles in another language if the subtitles are intended only as a translation, and not specifically as an aid for the hearing impaired.

(2) Visually impaired. Assign either **Films for people with visual disabilities** or **Television programs for people with visual disabilities** to all moving-image works with additional audio description provided for people with visual disabilities.

Moving Image Genre/Form Headings H 1913

2. Construction of headings.

a. General rule. All genre/form headings must be established. For general guidelines on the creation of subject authority records, see H 200.

b. Form of heading.

(1) Use of terms already in LCSH. Before proposing a new genre/form heading, search LCSH to determine whether there is a topical subject heading that is appropriate for use as a genre/form heading. If there is, propose that the new genre/form heading be identical to the topical heading.

Example: The work in hand is a recording of a television interview. The topical term **Interviews** exists in LCSH and can be proposed for use as a genre/form heading. (The additional genre/form heading **Nonfiction television programs** may be added to the bibliographic record to bring out the format of the work.)

(2) Construction of new headings. Create separate headings for film and television genres and forms. Prefer the formulas [. . .] **films** and [. . .] **television programs**, although headings of the type **Film** [. . .] or **Television** [. . .] may also be proposed if appropriate. If neither of the above two options is practical (e.g., due to common usage or literary warrant), then headings may be constructed by using the qualifiers (**Motion pictures**) or (**Television programs**). *Examples:*

```
155 ## $a Horror films
155 ## $a Film adaptations
155 ## $a Rushes (Motion pictures)
155 ## $a Horror television programs
155 ## $a Television adaptations
155 ## $a Variety shows (Television programs)
```

c. References. Construct references according to the following guidelines, which follow the general principles for references presented in H 370.

H 1913 Moving Image Genre/Form Headings

2. Construction of headings.

c. References. (continued)

(1) **Used for references.** Add 455 fields for variant terminology and/or different forms of heading.

(2) **Broader term references.** Judiciously add broader term references for explicit class/class member relationships. Genre/form headings without broader terms are permissible. *Examples:*

```
155 ## $a Romantic comedy films
555 ## $w g $a Comedy films
```

```
155 ## $a Cinéma vérité
555 ## $w g $a Documentary films
```

[*but* 155 ## \$a Buddy films]

(3) **Related term references.** Link through related term references those terms with meanings that overlap to some extent, or that are used somewhat interchangeably.

```
155 ## $a Disaster films
555 ## $a Survival films
```

```
155 ## $a Survival films
555 ## $a Disaster films
```

d. **Scope notes.** Add a scope note to define the meaning of the genre/form heading if necessary. Consult H 400 for guidance.

```
155 ## $a Social guidance films
680 ## $i Here are entered films designed to guide people,
usually teenagers, in proper behavior, dating,
etiquette, and other social interaction.
```

Moving Image Genre/Form Headings H 1913

2. *Construction of headings. (continued)*

e. Suggested reference sources. When possible, consult one or more of the following sources:

Katz, Ephraim. *The film encyclopedia.*

Konigsberg, Ira. *The complete film dictionary.*

Lopez, Daniel. *Films by genre : 775 categories, styles, trends and movements defined, with a filmography for each.*

Taves, Brian. *The moving image genre-form guide.*

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/mopic/migintro.html>

Yee, Martha M. *Moving image materials : genre terms.*

3. MARC 21 content designation and input conventions. Genre/form headings are recorded in field 155 in the authority format, with both indicators blank. In the bibliographic format they are recorded in field 655 with a second indicator of **0** (zero).