

#### **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND APPLIED SCIENCE**

CLAS CODE: 2023HAS-JAN

UNIT NAME: INFORMATION LITERACY

TRAINER: MRS. KIBE

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**GROUPWORK ASSIGNMENT:** 

QUESTIONS: DISCUSS LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CLASSIFICATION

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# Library of Congress Classification (LCC)

This is a system of library classification developed by the Library of Congress in the United States, which can be used for shelving books in a library. LCC is mainly used by large research and academic libraries.

The classification was developed by James Hanson (chief of the Catalog Department), with assistance from Charles Martel, in 1897, while they were working at the Library of Congress. It was designed specifically for the purposes and collection of the Library of Congress to replace the fixed location system developed by Thomas Jefferson.

# **How Library of Congress Classification (LCC works**

The LCC combines letters of the alphabet with Arabic numerals. It uses 21 out of 26 letters of the alphabet and offers 676 subjects divisions. Currently the letters I, O, W, X and Y are not used but are reserved for further expansion. LCC therefore uses a mixed nomination. The LCC like other classification systems proceeds from the general to particular. Main classes are marked with a single letter.

#### An outline of LCC main classes

- A- General works
- **B** Philosophy
- C- Auxiliary science of history
- **D** History, general and old works
- **EF**-History: America
- F- United states local history
- G- Geography, Anthropology, Recreation
- H- Social science
- J- Political science
- K-law
- L- Education
- M- Music
- N- Fine arts
- P- Language and Literature
- **Q** Science
- **R** Medicine
- S- Agriculture
- T- Technology
- U- Military Science
- V- Naval science
- Z- Bibliography and Library Science

### **Subclasses**

Each of the main classes, with the exception of E and F, is further divided into subclasses, which represent disciplines or major branches of the main class. They are denoted by combination of letters.

Examples:

PR- English Literature

PN- Literacy history and collection

**PQ**- Roman literature

PS- American literature

# **Topics and sub-topics**

They are denoted by numerical divisions Examples;

- a. PN- Collection of Greek proverbs 6413- Subtopic and topics
- b. PN- American English 101- Authorship

Decimal letters and numbers in same line are used to subdivide a subject alphabetically by form or country Example;

a. PN 6110. H8-Humour (form)

b. PN 6519. A7- Arabic (country)

The decimal, letter and Arabic numerals combination are used for authors surnames. Example;

PS

708

.B7 - William Bradford.

## Call number in LCC system

A call number is a combination of class number and author/book number. The LCC classification numbers range in length from one letter and one numeral, to two letters, four numerals, one decimal number and a decimal, letter and number combination.

# Examples;

P	PN	PN
1	86	1993.5
.A86	.K57	.U65

All the numbers before the decimal are read in ordinary sequence; all those following the decimal are read decimally.

The classification number and author number make the call number A book whose title is Drama in English Teaching will have the following call number

Books are arranged on the shelf according to the call number e.g class number first then numerically in order from left to right.

Example;

PN	PN	PN	PN	PN
17	86	86	1993.5	1994
.A86	.K57	.K72	.U65	.CU5

A user has to consult the catalog first in order to get the call number.



