



Library of Congress Classification System & Call Numbers

Most books and periodicals in the UM-St. Louis Libraries are arranged on the shelves by the Library of Congress (LC) Classification system. This system, like the familiar Dewey Decimal Classification, allows the materials to be grouped by topic. This grouping is achieved by assigning a "call number" to each book.

LC call numbers consist of a combination of letters and numbers and are arranged on the shelves in alphabetical and numerical sequence. They have three or more lines; the first consists of one or more letters representing the broad subject material of the book. The second line is a whole number (1-9999) representing a narrower topic within the broad subject. The third and subsequent lines consist of a letter/decimal combination or a decimal alone. These may represent a further subdivision of the topic or an author designation.

Call numbers are shelved first in **alphabetical** order by the letters of the first line, then **numerically** by the whole numbers of the second line. The third and subsequent lines are arranged **alphabetically and decimally**.

EXAMPLE:

1st line (alphabetical)	P	P	PR	PR	PR	PS
2nd line (numerical)	91	101	67	542	542	30
3rd line (alpha/decimal)	.A4	.T5	.D4	.F32	.F4	.A15

LOCATIONS

When checking the LIBRARY CATALOG to find a call number, please make a note of the "Location". This tells you if the item is on the UM-St. Louis campus or another campus within the MERLIN and MOBIUS catalogs. MERLIN includes the four University of Missouri campuses and St. Louis University. The MOBIUS catalog includes most universities and colleges in Missouri.

UM-St. Louis Libraries holdings begin with UMS. The Thomas Jefferson Library materials are marked TJ, the Ward E. Barnes Library materials are marked BARNES, and the Mercantile Library items are marked MERC. "Location" designations will also specify if the material is in a special area within the Libraries. For example: if you were to search for the *Standard & Poor's Register of Corporations, Directors and Executives*, the LIBRARY CATALOG would present a screen with title and author information and a location box similar to this:

Loc:	UMS TJ COM 1 HG4057 .A4
LIB. HAS:	1990-2001
Loc:	UMS TJ REF DESK HG4057 .A4
Identity:	Current edition at the Reference Desk
LIB. HAS:	2002
Latest received:	July 2002
Loc:	UMSL DEPOSITORY HG4057 .A4
LIB. HAS:	1973-1989

The screen indicates that the 1990-2001 volumes are in Thomas Jefferson Library's Compact Shelving Room on level one. The volume for 2002 is in the Reference Collection on level three; and older volumes are in the University's Depository facility in Columbia, Missouri. All volumes have the same call number: HG 4057 .A4. To locate the item in the libraries, click on the location code and a map will appear. Please consult a Reference Librarian if you have questions about the location codes or questions about access to the Depository items.

CALL NUMBER DIVISIONS by FLOOR

for BOOKS held in the Thomas Jefferson Library

This list gives a breakdown for some of the general subject areas of the LC Classification System. Please consult Library Catalog for location codes.

LEVEL 1 now houses **most** circulating items with call numbers beginning with A – F.

LEVEL 4 now houses **most** circulating items with call numbers beginning with G – Z.

LEVEL 5 now houses **most** journals including current issues, bound volumes, and microforms; some journals are housed in COM 2, on level 2. The catalog record will contain location information.

A - General

AE: encyclopedias
AI: indexes
AM: museums
AN: newspapers
AY: yearbooks

B - Philosophy, Religion

B to BJ (except BF) - philosophy
BF - psychology
BL to BX - religion

C - History (general)

D - History (except the Americas)

DA - Great Britain
DC - France
DD - Germany
DK - Soviet Union (Russia)
DP - Spain
DS - Asia
DT - Africa

E - The Americas (general) and United States (general)

F - United States (local) and other North & South American countries

G - Geography, Anthropology, Recreation

GN - anthropology
GR - folklore, manners and customs
GV - sports and recreation

H - Social Sciences

HA - statistics
HB to HF - economics
HG to HJ - finance
HM - sociology
HV - social pathology, social and public welfare, criminology
HX - socialism, communism, anarchism

J - Political Science

JK - United States
JX - international law

K - Law

KF - United States
KFM - Missouri

L - Education

(materials housed at Ward E. Barnes Library on the South Campus)

M - Music

ML - literature of music
MT - musical instruction and study

N - Fine Arts

NA - architecture
NB - sculpture
ND - painting

P - Language and Literature

PA - classical language and literature
PC - Romance language
PD - Germanic language
PG - Slavic language
PJ - Oriental language and literature
PN - literature
PQ - Romance literature
PR - English literature
PS - American literature
PT - Germanic literature

Q - Science

QA - mathematics
QB - astronomy
QC - physics
QD - chemistry
QE - geology
QH - natural history, general biology
QK - botany
QL - zoology
QP - physiology
QR - microbiology

R - Medicine (most items are housed at the Ward E. Barnes Library on the South Campus)

RE - ophthalmology
RT - nursing

S - Agriculture

T - Technology

TA to TP - various engineering disciplines
TR - photography

U - Military Science (for military history, see divisions D through F)

V - Naval Science

Z - Bibliography, Library Science