

PUBLIC LIBRARY CORE COLLECTION:

NONFICTION

FIFTEENTH EDITION

# **CORE COLLECTION SERIES**

Formerly

**STANDARD CATALOG SERIES**

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**CHILDREN'S CORE COLLECTION**

**MIDDLE AND JUNIOR HIGH CORE COLLECTION**

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**PUBLIC LIBRARY CORE COLLECTION: NONFICTION**

**FICTION CORE COLLECTION**

**PUBLIC LIBRARY  
CORE COLLECTION:  
NONFICTION**

**A Selection Guide to Reference Books  
and  
Adult Nonfiction**

**FIFTEENTH EDITION**

**Former title:  
Public Library Catalog**

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# PREFACE

PUBLIC LIBRARY CORE COLLECTION: NONFICTION, formerly entitled Public Library Catalog, is a list of recommended reference and nonfiction books for adults, in classified order. The Core Collections are also available in electronic format via EBSCO*host*, updated weekly.

## What's new in this edition?

Each new edition of PUBLIC LIBRARY CORE COLLECTION: NONFICTION is a mixture of the old and the new. Older titles, some in updated versions, are included if they remain the best titles in their field. Newer titles reflect new topics of interest and new interpretations of traditional knowledge. This edition of the Core Collection features general revisions to most subject areas.

## History

The first of several installments of the “Standard Catalog” for the general library was published in 1918. It was called STANDARD CATALOG: SOCIOLOGY SECTION. Additional installments were issued over the next fourteen years, covering Biography; Fiction; Fine Arts; History and Travel; Science and Useful Arts; Literature and Philology; and Philosophy, Religion and General Works. Finally, a fully integrated first edition of the STANDARD CATALOG FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES was assembled and published in 1934. The contents were displayed in classified order, according to the Dewey Decimal Classification. The name was changed to PUBLIC LIBRARY CATALOG with the publication of the fifth edition in 1969, and then to PUBLIC LIBRARY CORE COLLECTION: NONFICTION with the thirteenth edition in 2008.

Although a Fiction Section was issued in 1923, followed by supplements in 1928 and 1931, fiction was omitted from the first edition of the complete Catalog in 1934. A new expanded edition of the Fiction Section was published as FICTION CATALOG in 1942. In its preface that Catalog was referred to as “a companion volume to the Standard Catalog for Public Libraries.” This complementary relationship has continued to the present. PUBLIC LIBRARY CORE COLLECTION: NONFICTION has always listed works of literary criticism and literary history and books about literary technique.

## Scope and Purpose

This volume lists nonfiction books published in the United States, or published in other countries and distributed in the United States. It excludes non-print materials; periodicals; non-English items (with the exception of dictionaries), and works of an ephemeral nature. All books were in print at the time of listing. Original paperback editions are included. Entries for hardcover editions provide information about the availability of paperback reprints where possible. This volume comprises over 12,000 book titles with multiple subject access.

The Core Collection is intended to serve the needs of public and undergraduate libraries and stand as a basic or “opening day” collection. The newer titles help in identifying areas in a collection that can be updated or strengthened. Retention of useful material from the previous edition enables the librarian to make informed decisions about weeding a collection. With its classified arrangement, complete bibliographical data, and descriptive and critical annotations, the Core Collection provides useful information for the acquisitions librarian, the reference librarian, and the cataloger. Entries provide information about the availability of electronic versions of books listed.

## Preparation

Books included in this edition were selected by experienced librarians representing public library systems and academic libraries across the United States who also act as a committee of advisors on library policy and trends. The names of participating librarians and their affiliations are listed in the Acknowledgments.

## Organization

The Core Collection is organized into two parts: the Classified Collection; and an Author, Title, and Subject Index.

**Part 1. Classified Collection.** This is arranged according to the Dewey Decimal Classification. Within classes, arrangement is by main entry, with complete bibliographical and cataloging information given for each book. The classified arrangement, along with the descriptive and critical annotations, provides a useful guide to book selection. Entries include such information as price and ISBN to facilitate acquisitions.

**Part 2. Author, Title, and Subject Index.** This is a comprehensive key to the Classified List with entries for authors, titles, and subjects.

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## Advisory Board

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# DIRECTIONS FOR USE OF THE CORE COLLECTION

## USES OF THE COLLECTION

PUBLIC LIBRARY CORE COLLECTION: NONFICTION is designed to serve a number of purposes:

**As an aid in purchasing.** The Core Collection is designed to assist in the selection and ordering of titles. Annotations are provided for each title along with information concerning the publisher, ISBN, price, and availability. Since Part 1, Classified Collection, is arranged according to the Dewey Decimal Classification, the Core Collection may be used to identify parts of the library collection that should be updated or strengthened. In evaluating the suitability of a work each library will want to consider the special character of the community it serves.

**As an aid to the reader's advisor.** The work of the reader's advisor is furthered by the information about sequels and companion volumes and the descriptive and critical annotations in the Classified Collection, and by the subject access in the Index.

**As an aid in verification of information.** For this purpose full bibliographical data are provided in the Classified Collection. Entries also include recommended subject headings based on *Sears List of Subject Headings* and a suggested classification derived from the *Abridged Dewey Decimal Classification and Relative Index*. Notes describe editions available, awards, publication history, and other titles in the series.

**As an aid in collection maintenance.** Information about titles available on a subject facilitates decisions to rebind, replace, or discard items. If a book has been deleted from the Core Collection in this edition because it is no longer in print, that deletion is not intended as a sign that the book is no longer valuable or that it should necessarily be weeded from the collection.

**As an instructional aid.** The Core Collection is useful in courses that deal with literature and book selection for public libraries.

## ORGANIZATION

The Core Collection consists of two parts: a Classified Collection, and an Author, Title, and Subject Index.

### Part 1. Classified Collection

The Classified Collection is arranged with nonfiction books first, classified according to the Dewey Decimal Classification in numerical order from 000 to 999. Individual biographies are classed at 92 and precede the 920s (collective biography). The information supplied for each book includes bibliographic description, suggested subject headings, an annotation, and frequently, an evaluation from a notable source.

An Outline of Classification, which serves as a table of contents for the Classified Collection, is reproduced following this section. It should be noted that many topics can be classified in more than one discipline. If a particular title is not found where it might be expected, the Index should be consulted to determine if it is classified elsewhere.

Within classes, works are arranged alphabetically under main entry, usually the author. Works of individual biography are arranged alphabetically under the biography's subject.

Each listing consists of a full bibliographical description. Prices, which are always subject to change, have been obtained from the publisher, when available, and are as current as possible. Entries include recommended subject headings derived from the *Sears List of Subject Headings*, a suggested classification number from the *Abridged Dewey Decimal Classification and Relative Index*, a brief description of the contents, and, whenever possible, an evaluation from a quoted source. The following is an example of a typical entry and a description of its components:

**Roach, Mary, 1959-**

★ **Stiff**; the curious lives of human cadavers.  
Norton 2003 303 p il \$23.95; pa \$13.95      **611**

1. Dead 2. Dissection 3. Human experimentation  
in medicine

ISBN 0-393-05093-9; 0-393-32482-6 pa

LC 2002-152908

The author "explains how surgeons and doctors use cadavers donated for research purposes to help the living, and also examines potential new variations on how we bury the dead." Libr J

"For those who are interested in the fields of medicine or forensics and are aware of some of the procedures, this book makes excellent reading." SLJ

Includes bibliographical references

The star at the beginning of the entry indicates that this is a "most highly recommended" title. The name of the author, Mary Roach, is given in conformity with *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules*, 2nd edition, 2002 revision. The title of the book is *Stiff: the curious lives of human cadavers*. The book was published by Norton in 2003.

The book has 303 pages and contains illustrations. It is published in hardcover and paperback, and sells for \$23.95 and \$13.95, respectively. (Prices given were current when the Collection went to press.)

At the end of the last line of type in the body entry is 611 in boldface type. This is the classification number or category derived from the fifteenth edition of the *Abridged Dewey Decimal Classification*.

The numbered terms "1. Dead 2. Dissection 3. Human experimentation in medicine" are recommended subject headings for this book based on *Sears List of Subject Headings*.

The ISBN (International Standard Book Number) is included to facilitate ordering. The Library of Congress control number is provided when available.

Following are three notes supplying additional information about the book. The first is a description of the book's content, in this case, an excerpt from *Library Journal*. The second is a critical note from *School Library Journal*. Such annotations are useful in evaluating books for selection and in determining which of several books on the same subject is best suited for the individual reader. The final note describes special features, such as a bibliography, if applicable. Notes are also made to describe sequels and companion volumes, editions available, awards, and publication history.

## Part 2. Author, Title, and Subject Index

The Index is a single alphabetical list of all the books entered in the Core Collection. Each book is entered under author; title (if distinctive); and subject. The classification number, displayed in boldface type, is the key to the location of the main entry for the book in the Classified Collection.

Appropriate added entries are made for joint authors and editors. “See” references are made from forms of names or subjects that are not used as headings. “See also” references are made to related or more specific headings.

The following are examples of Index entries for the book cited above:

Author	<b>Roach, Mary, 1959-</b> Stiff	<b>611</b>
Title	<b>Stiff.</b> Roach, M.	<b>611</b>
Subject	<b>DEAD</b> Roach, M. Stiff.	<b>611</b>

### Standards Used

*Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules*, 2nd ed., 2002 revision, 2005 update. Chicago: American Library Association, 2005.

Bristow, Barbara A. and Christi Showman Farrar, eds. *Sears List of Subject Headings*. 21st ed. Ipswich, MA: The H. W. Wilson Company, 2014.

Dewey, Melvil. *Abridged Dewey Decimal Classification and Relative Index*. 15th ed. Edited by Joan S. Mitchell, et al. Dublin, Ohio: OCLC, 2012.



# OUTLINE OF CLASSIFICATION

Reproduced below is the Second Summary of the Dewey Decimal Classification. \* As Part 1 of this Core Collection is arranged according to this classification, the outline will serve as a table of contents for it. Please note, however, that the inclusion of this outline is not to be considered a substitute for consulting the Dewey Decimal Classification itself.

## **000 Computer science, knowledge & systems**

- 010 Bibliographies
- 020 Library & information sciences
- 030 Encyclopedias & books of facts
- 040 [Unassigned]
- 050 Magazines, journals & serials
- 060 Associations, organizations & museums
- 070 News media, journalism & publishing
- 080 Quotations
- 090 Manuscripts & rare books

## **100 Philosophy**

- 110 Metaphysics
- 120 Epistemology
- 130 Parapsychology & occultism
- 140 Philosophical schools of thought
- 150 Psychology
- 160 Logic
- 170 Ethics
- 180 Ancient, medieval & eastern philosophy
- 190 Modern western philosophy

## **200 Religion**

- 210 Philosophy & theory of religion
- 220 The Bible
- 230 Christianity & Christian theology
- 240 Christian practice & observance
- 250 Christian pastoral practice & religious orders
- 260 Christian organization, social work & worship
- 270 History of Christianity
- 280 Christian denominations
- 290 Other religions

## **300 Social sciences, sociology & anthropology**

- 310 Statistics
- 320 Political science
- 330 Economics
- 340 Law
- 350 Public administration & military science
- 360 Social problems & social services
- 370 Education
- 380 Commerce, communications & transportation
- 390 Customs, etiquette & folklore

## **400 Language**

- 410 Linguistics
- 420 English & Old English languages
- 430 German & related languages
- 440 French & related languages
- 450 Italian, Romanian & related languages
- 460 Spanish & Portuguese languages
- 470 Latin & Italic languages
- 480 Classical & modern Greek languages
- 490 Other languages

## **500 Science**

- 510 Mathematics
- 520 Astronomy
- 530 Physics
- 540 Chemistry
- 550 Earth sciences & geology
- 560 Fossils & prehistoric life
- 570 Life sciences; biology
- 580 Plants (Botany)
- 590 Animals (Zoology)

## **600 Technology**

- 610 Medicine & health
- 620 Engineering
- 630 Agriculture
- 640 Home & family management
- 650 Management & public relations
- 660 Chemical engineering
- 670 Manufacturing
- 680 Manufacture for specific uses
- 690 Building & construction

## **700 Arts**

- 710 Landscaping & area planning
- 720 Architecture
- 730 Sculpture, ceramics & metalwork
- 740 Drawing & decorative arts
- 750 Painting
- 760 Graphic arts
- 770 Photography & computer art
- 780 Music
- 790 Sports, games & entertainment

## **800 Literature, rhetoric & criticism**

- 810 American literature in English
- 820 English & Old English literatures
- 830 German & related literatures
- 840 French & related literatures
- 850 Italian, Romanian & related literatures
- 860 Spanish & Portuguese literatures
- 870 Latin & Italian literatures
- 880 Classical & modern Greek literatures
- 890 Other literatures

## **900 History**

- 910 Geography & travel
- 920 Biography & genealogy
- 930 History of ancient world (to ca. 499)
- 940 History of Europe
- 950 History of Asia
- 960 History of Africa
- History of North America
- 980 History of South America
- 990 History of other areas

\* Reproduced from Edition 15 of the Abridged Dewey Decimal Classification and Relative Index, published in 2012, by permission of OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc., owner of copyright.

