LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

The books in the Las Positas College Library are shelved according to the Library of Congress Classification System, which separates all knowledge into 21 classes, as outlined below. Each class is identified by a letter of the alphabet, subclasses by combinations of letters, & subtopics within classes and subclasses by a number. This list is online at: http://www.laspositascollege.edu/library/lc_classification.php

A General Works (general encyclopedias, reference books)
   AK-AY Encyclopedias, Dictionaries, Almanacs
B Philosophy-Religion
   B-BJ Philosophy
   BF Psychology
   BL-BX Religion
C History: Other
   CB History of civilization
   CC Archaeology
   CS Genealogy
   CT General biography
D History: General and Old World (including geography of individual countries)
   D World history, World Wars
   DA-DQ Europe
   DR-DS Asia
   DT Africa
   DU Oceania, Australia
E-F History of America (including geography)
   E 1-143 America
   E75-99 Indians of North America
   E 151-857 United States (general)
   F1-957 United States (local, states)
   F1001, etc. Other individual countries
G Geography, Anthropology, Folklore, etc.
   GGB Geography
   GC Oceanography
   GN Anthropology
   GR Folklore
   GT Manners, customs, costume
   GV Sports, games, dancing
H Social Sciences
   HA Statistics
   HB-HJ Economics, Business
   HM-HX Sociology
   HQ Family, women, marriage
   HV Criminology
J Political Science
   IA-IC Political Science
   JF-JQ Constitutional history
   JS Local government
   JX International relations
K Law
   KFC California Law
L Education
M Music
   M Scores
   ML Literature of music
   MT Musical instruction
N Fine Arts
   NA Architecture
   NB Sculpture
   NC Graphic arts
   ND Painting
   NK Decorative and applied arts
P Language and Literature (Film, drama, monologues, plays, poetry, short stories, novels, children's literature)
   PE English
   PE 128 ESL
   PN General literature: poetry, monologues, drama
   PR English language, literature
   PS American literature
   PZ Fiction and children's literature, basic readers
Q Science
   QA Mathematics and computer science
   QB Astronomy
   QC Physics
   QD Chemistry
   QE Geology
   QH Natural History
   QK Botany
   QL Zoology
   QM Human anatomy
  QP Physiology
R Medicine
   RC Health
   RD Surgery
   RJ Pediatrics
   RK Dentistry
   RS Pharmacy & medical information
   RT Nursing
S Agriculture
   SB Plant culture, horticulture
   SD Forestry
   SF Animal culture
   SH Fish culture, fisheries
T Technology
   TA General engineering
   TC Hydraulic engineering
   TD Sanitary & municipal engineering
   TE Highway engineering
   TF Railroad engineering
   TH Building construction
   TJ Mechanical engineering
   TK Electrical engineering
   TL Motor vehicles, aeronautics, astronautics
   TP Chemical technology
   TR Photography
   TS Manufactures
   TT Handicrafts
   TX Nutrition/ cookery
U Military Science
V Naval Science
Z Bibliography and Library

The complete Library of Congress call number for any Las Positas College Chabot College Library book may be found by consulting the Library catalog. A librarian will be happy to help you if you are unable to find the book you want.
LPC Library – Tip Sheet for Library of Congress Call Numbers

Call Numbers

Call numbers are used by libraries to arrange books by subject and to indicate where they are located on the shelves. A call number is like an address. Call numbers appear:

Reading Call Numbers

- Read call numbers line by line:
  - Read the first line in alphabetical order: A, B, BF, C, D ... L, LA, LB, LC, M, ML ...
  - Read the second line as a whole number: 1, 2, 3, 45, 100, 101, 1000, 2006, 2430 ...
  - The third line is a combination of a letter and numbers.
  - Read the letter alphabetically.
  - Read the number as a decimal, e.g. .C65 = .65 and .C724 = .724
  - Some call numbers have more than one combination letter-number line.

This is the year the book was published.


Finding Books by Call Number Order on the Shelf

- LA before LB
- 997 before 1002
- 2327 before 2328
- .55 before .554
- .B before .C
- .34 before .55
- .554 before .63
- 2002 before 2003

How Do You Read a Call Number?

The first sections of the call number represent the subject of the book. The letter and decimal section of the call number often represents the author’s last name.

Title: *What You Need to Know About Developing Study Skills, Taking Notes & Tests, Using Dictionaries & Libraries*
Author: Coman, Marcia J.
Call number: LB2395 .C65 1991

The first two lines describe the subject of the book.
LB2395 = Methods of Study, in Higher Education
This line often represents the author’s last name.
.C65 = Coman
The year the book was published.

Note: this section on Call Numbers was adapted from Honolulu Community College Library, http://www.hcc.hawaii.edu/education/hcc/library/callno.html