

# Virtual AskQC Office Hours

Get Informed about Genre/Form Terms

OCLC Metadata Quality  
September 2023

# Housekeeping

This session is being recorded



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This session is being recorded

All session recordings, slides, and notes are available at [oc.lc/askqc](https://oc.lc/askqc)

The screenshot shows the OCLC website's AskQC page. At the top, there is the OCLC logo, a search bar with the text "How can we help you?", and navigation links for "Release Notes", "System Status Dashboard", and "Contact OCLC Support". Below the search bar is a breadcrumb trail: "Home » WorldCat » Metadata Quality » AskQC". The main heading is "Previous AskQC office hours", with a subtext "Last updated: Apr 16, 2021" and a print icon. Below this is the instruction "Find past AskQC office hour recordings and supporting materials." A table follows, listing office hours by date and title, with links to recordings, slides, and summary questions.

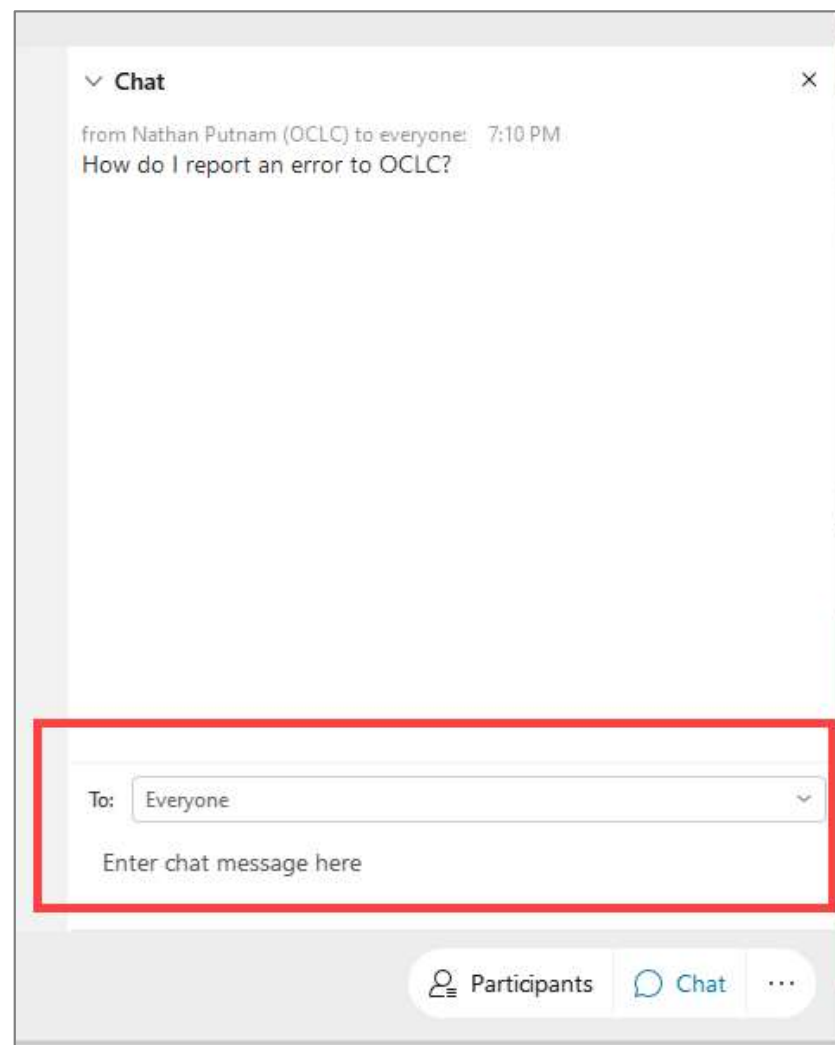
Date	Title	Supporting material
March 2021	PCC and OCLC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">WebEx recording - March 9</a></li><li>• <a href="#">WebEx recording - March 18</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Presentation slides</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Summary and member questions</a></li></ul>
February 2021	7xx linking fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">WebEx recording - February 9</a></li><li>• <a href="#">WebEx recording - February 18</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Presentation slides</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Summary and member questions</a></li></ul>

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Enter questions in chat to “Everyone” at any time during the presentation



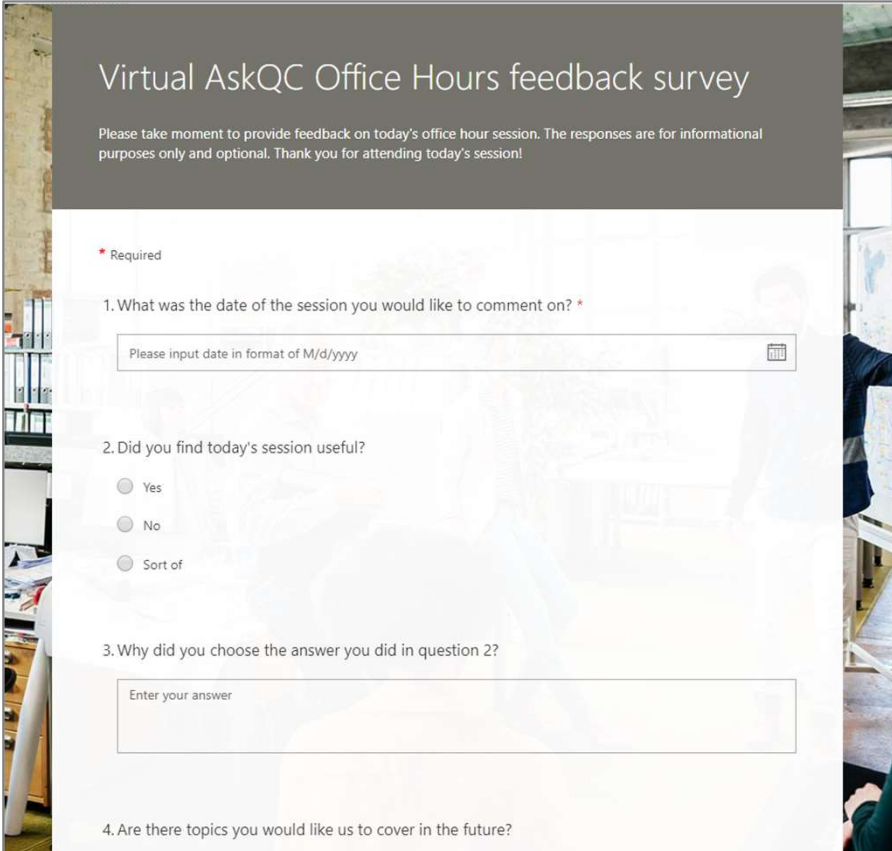
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Enter questions in chat to “Everyone” at any time during the presentation.

After the session, you will be directed to a brief, optional survey



Virtual AskQC Office Hours feedback survey

Please take moment to provide feedback on today's office hour session. The responses are for informational purposes only and optional. Thank you for attending today's session!

\* Required

1. What was the date of the session you would like to comment on? \*

Please input date in format of M/d/yyyy

2. Did you find today's session useful?

Yes

No

Sort of

3. Why did you choose the answer you did in question 2?

Enter your answer

4. Are there topics you would like us to cover in the future?

# On the Call Today



**Hayley Moreno**  
Senior Data Analyst



**Kate James**  
Program Coordinator  
Metadata Engagement



**Bryan Baldus**  
Senior Data Analyst



**Robin Six**  
Senior Data Analyst

# Get Informed about Genre/Form Terms

**Kate James**

Program Coordinator, Metadata Engagement

# Today We Will Cover:

- Introduction
- Using Field 655
- Control Heading in Field 655
- Other Ways to Record Genre/Form
- Conclusion



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# INTRODUCTION

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# What is a Genre?

- [Library of Congress FAQ on LCGFT](#): “Genre refers to categories of works that are characterized by similar plots, themes, settings, situations, and characters. Examples of genres are westerns and thrillers.”
- [BFAS 655 Definition](#): “Genre terms for textual materials designate specific kinds of materials distinguished by the style or technique of their intellectual content (e.g., biographies, catechisms, essays, hymns, or reviews).”

# What is a Form?

- [Library of Congress FAQ on LCGFT](#): “Form is defined as a characteristic of works with a particular format and/or purpose. A ‘short’ is a particular form, for example, as is ‘animation.’”
- [BFAS 655 Definition](#): “Form and physical characteristic terms designate functionally and historically specific kinds of materials. Distinguish terms by an examination of the physical character, by the order of information within the item, or by the subject of the intellectual content (e.g., daybooks, diaries, directories, journals, memoranda, questionnaires, syllabi, or time sheets).”

# Genre/Form vs. Subject

- Genre/form is what a resource *is*
  - **Example:** Maps
- Subject is what a resource is *about*
  - **Example:** Geography
- Why is this confusing?
  - A resource can be **about** a genre/form
    - **Example:** *How to make hand-drawn maps* is a resource about *Maps*
  - A genre/form term may include an indication of subject
    - **Example:** *Love poetry* is a genre term for poems about *Love*
  - The MARC 6XX fields block is called “Subject access fields”
    - Includes field 655 (Index Term – Genre/Form)

# Recording Genre/Form in Bib. Records

- Field 655 (Index Term – Genre/Form)
- Form subdivision (≠v) in a subject added entry (fields 600-651)
  - Fields 662 and 688 are subject added entry fields but ≠v is not defined
- OCLC Fixed Field Values
- Field 380 (Form of Work)

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# USING FIELD 655

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# BFAS 655 Indicators

- Record type: bibliographic (BIB) or local bibliographic data (LBD)

1st Indicator		Second Indicator	
[Blank]	Basic	0	Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH)
0	Faceted	1	LC Children's and Young Adult Subject Headings
		2	Medical Subject Headings (MeSH)
		3	National Agricultural Library subject authority file
		4	Source not specified
		5	Canadian Subject Headings
		6	Répertoire de vedettes-matière
		7	Source specified in subfield #2

# BFAS 655 Subfields

- Record type: bibliographic (BIB) or local bibliographic data (LBD)

## Subfields:

**#a Genre/form data or focus term (R)**

#b Non-focus term (R)

#c Facet/hierarchy designation (R)

#v Form subdivision (R)

#y Chronological subdivision (R)

#z Geographic subdivision (R)

#0 Authority record control number or standard number (R)

#1 Real World Object URI (R)

**#2 Source of term (NR)**

**#3 Materials specified (NR)**

#5 Institution to which field applies (NR)

#6 Linkage (NR)

#7 Data provenance (R)

#8 Field link and sequence number (R)



# 655 with LCSH “Cell phone novels”

- Resource is an exemplar of the cell phone novel genre

100 1 Greenwald, Lisa, ≠e author.  
 245 1 0 TBH, you know what I mean / ≠c Lisa Greenwald.  
 520 TBH, sometimes boys say dumb things about girls. And Cece is sick of it! When she leads a super-successful event at school to raise awareness, everyone starts looking to her to take charge--of everything. [...]

**655 0 Cell phone novels.**

“sh” prefix indicates LCSH

010		sh2009007926
040		DLC ≠b eng ≠c DLC
150		Cell phone novels
450		Cell phone stories
450		Cellphone novels
450		Cellular telephone novels
550		≠w g ≠a Fiction
550		≠w g ≠a Popular literature

# 655 with LCGFT “Cell phone novels”

- Resource is an exemplar of the cell phone novel genre

100 1 Greenwald, Lisa, #e author.  
245 1 0 TBH, you know what I mean / #c Lisa Greenwald.  
520 TBH, sometimes boys say dumb things about girls. And Cece is sick of it! When she leads a super-successful event at school to raise awareness, everyone starts looking to her to take charge--of everything. [...]

**655 7 Cell phone novels. #2 lcgft**

“gf” prefix indicates LCGFT

010		gf2014026256
040		I ChALCS #b eng #c DLC #f lcgft #d DLC
155		Cell phone novels
455		Cellphone novels
455		Cellular telephone novels
455		Mobile phone novels
455		SMS novels
455		Text messaging novels
555		#w g #a Novels

# Genre/Form Vocabularies

- MARC [Genre/Form Code and Term Source Codes](#) has a list of sources and codes of genre/form vocabularies, including
  - Genre terms for tabletop games (gttg)
  - Library of Congress genre/form terms for library and archival materials (lcfgt)
  - Thesaurus of ephemera terms (tept)
- MARC [Subject Heading and Term Source Codes](#) may also be used for genre/form terms. Examples from this list include
  - Art & architecture thesaurus (aat)
  - European education thesaurus (eet)
  - Library of Congress subject headings (lcsb)

# LCGFT Overview (code: lcgft)

- Library of Congress Genre/Form Terms (LCGFT) began in 2007
- First project was for moving image terms, then radio programs, cartographic materials, law, general library materials, etc.
- Use with *LC Genre/Form Terms (LCGFT) Manual*
- Contained 2,421 established terms in March 2022



# Art & Architecture Thesaurus (AAT)


## Overview (code: aat)

- Work on AAT began in 1970s
- Created by Getty to improve access to information for art, architecture, and other material culture
- Also contains many terms applicable to general library resources
- Around 74,045 records and 488,911 terms (as of March 2023 according to FAQ page)
- <https://www.getty.edu/research/tools/vocabularies/aat/index.html>

ID: 300123016

Page Link: <http://vocab.getty.edu/page/aat/300123016>

Record Type: [concept](#)

 **artists' books (books)** (<books by conditions of production>, books, ... Visual and Verbal Communication (hierarchy name))

**Note:** Books, whether unique items or multiples, made or conceived by artists, including commercial publications (usually in limited editions), as well as unique items formed or arranged by the artist. For texts written by artists for the sake of their informational content, use "writings." For artists' books that emphasize the physical book as a work of art rather than the content, use "bookworks." For works that look like or incorporate books but do not communicate in the ways characteristic of books, see "book objects."

**Terms:**

**artists' books (books)** ([preferred](#), [C,U,LC,English-P,D,U,PN](#))  
([Norwegian \(Nynorsk\)-P,AD,U,SN](#))

([Norwegian \(Bokmål\)-P,AD,U,SN](#))

**artist's book (book)** ([C,U,English,AD,U,SN](#))

**artists books (books)** ([C,U,English,UF,U,N](#))

**artist books (book)** ([C,U,English,UF,U,N](#))

**books, artists'** ([C,U,English,UF,U,N](#))

**kunstenarsboeken** ([C,U,Dutch-P,D,U,U](#))

**kunstenarsboek** ([C,U,Dutch,AD,U,SN](#))

**livre d'artiste (artists' books)** ([C,U,French,AD,U,SN](#))

**Künstlerbuch** ([C,U,German,AD,U,SN](#))

**libro d'artista** ([C,U,Italian,AD,U,SN](#))

**livre d' artiste** ([C,U,Norwegian \(Bokmål\),AD,U,SN](#))

([Norwegian \(Nynorsk\),AD,U,SN](#))

**livros de artista** ([C,U,Portuguese-P,D,U,PN](#))

**livro de artista** ([C,U,Portuguese,AD,U,SN](#))

**libros de artista** ([C,U,Spanish-P,D,U,PN](#))

**libro de artista** ([C,U,Spanish,AD,U,SN](#))

**konstnärskbok** ([C,U,Swedish,AD,U,SN](#))

- The **preferred** term is the commonly used term in American English
- Implementers may opt to display a different term, e.g., the French term
- **[Language]-P** means preferred term for a language
- **AD** means “alternate descriptor”

# AAT Example

- 245 0 0 In the night of the 6th of May instant, the ancient mansion called Charlecote House near Stratford-upon-Avon, the residence of Mrs. Lucy was feloniously broken open, and the following, with other property stolen therefrom....
- 300 1 sheet ; ‡c 34 x 43 cm
- 520 A poster advertising a theft from Charlecote House on May 6th, 1850, with a list of the items taken [...] and offering a reward for "such information as may lead to the apprehension and conviction of the Offenders."
- 655 7 **wanted posters. #2 aat #0 (CStmoGRI)aatgf300265727**
- 655 7 **broadsides (notices) #2 aat #0 (CStmoGRI)aatgf300026739**



# Genre Terms for Tabletop Games (code: gttg)

- Developed in 2016 by University of North Texas librarians; revised in 2020
- A nine-page list available as PDF or viewing online
- Has MARC 21 fields
  - 680 scope notes
  - 455 (UF) and 555 (BT)
- <https://digital.library.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metadc826647/>

# GTTG Example

- 245 0 0 Monopoly.
- 300 1 game (game board, 6 tokens, title deed cards, custom play money, chance and community cards, 32 monorail stops, 12 monorail stations, 2 dice, 1 game rules : #b cardboard, metal and plastic, color ; #c in box 27 x 41 x 6 cm
- 655 7 **Tabletop games. #2 gttg**
- 655 7 **Set collection games. #2 gttg**
- 655 7 Board games. #2 lcgft



Image courtesy of Wikimedia  
Common, CC0 1.0  
([https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Toys\\_2007-150-656\\_\(15406600117\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Toys_2007-150-656_(15406600117).jpg))

*GTTG has more specialized terms than LCGFT for tabletop games.*

# RBMSCV Overview (code: rbmscv)

- Available at <https://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/rbmscv.html>
- Contains vocabularies formerly in multiple lists
  - Binding Terms (rbbin)
  - Genre Terms (rbgenr)
  - Paper Terms (rbpap)
  - Printer & Publishing Evidence (rbpri or rbpub)
  - Provenance Evidence (rbprov)
  - Type Evidence (rbtyp)
- Do not use with subdivisions per RBMS CVRMC prefatory material
  - Older RBMS vocabularies allowed subdivisions

## Accordion fold format

### URI(s)

- <http://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/rbmscv/cv00024>

### Variants

- Double leaf format
- Orihon format

### Broader Terms

- Format

### Instance Of

- MADS/RDF GenreForm

### Scheme Membership(s)

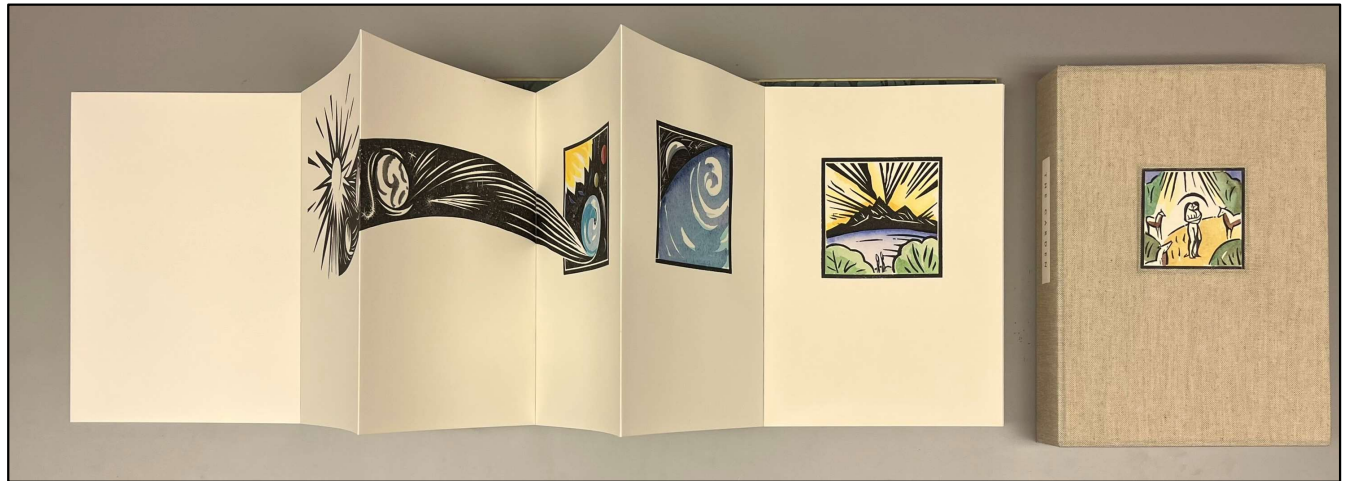
- RBMS Controlled Vocabulary for Rare Materials Cataloging (RBMS CVRMC)

### Collection Membership(s)

- RBMS Controlled Vocabulary Collection

### Change Notes

- 2020-05-21: new
- 2020-05-21: updated



*Image courtesy of LSU Libraries – Special Collections, Book Arts Collection (<https://guides.lib.lsu.edu/BookArts/Accordion>)*

# RBMSCV Example

100 1 Cummins, Maureen, ≠e book artist, ≠e printer, ≠e binder.  
245 1 0 The garden : ≠b a meditation on man & nature / ≠c  
illustrated, printed, and bound by Maureen Cummins.  
264 1 [New York] : ≠b Inanna Press, ≠c 1993.  
655 7 **Accordion fold format. #2 rbmscv**  
655 7 **Artists' books. #2 rbmscv**

*In WorldCat record, 655 field shows former vocabulary practice: Artists' books ≠z New York (State) #2 rbgenr*

# Using #3 in Field 655

- Subfield #3 may be used when a term applies to part of a resource
- Record #3 at the beginning of the field with a term indicating the part to which the genre/form term applies

245 0 4 The gold rush ; #b plus, Pay day / #c Film de Dam ; written and directed by Charlie Chaplin.

655 7 Comedy films. #2 lcgft

655 7 Silent films. #2 lcgft

655 7 Fiction films. #2 lcgft

655 7 **#3 Gold rush:** #a Feature films. #2 lcgft

655 7 **#3 Pay day:** #a Short films. #2 lcgft

*Resource contains two films. Some terms are applicable to both.*

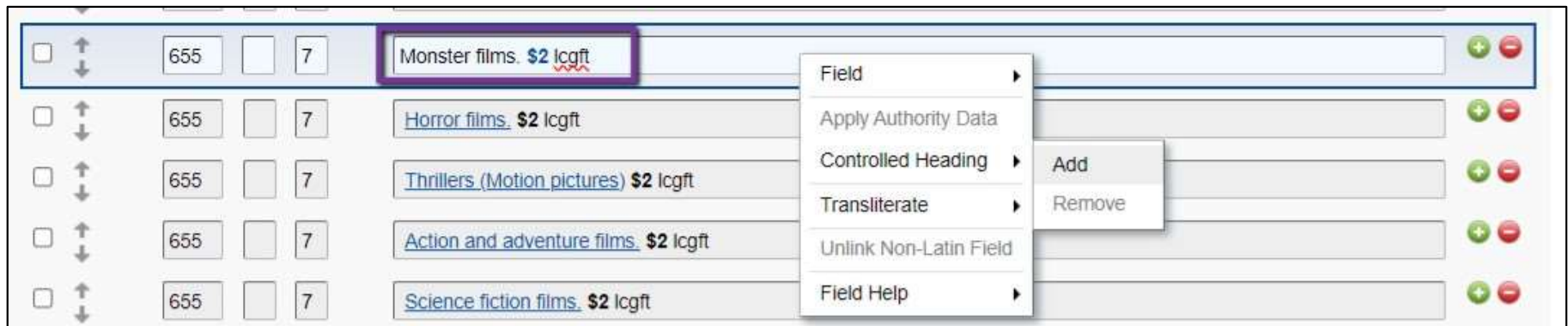
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# CONTROL HEADING IN FIELD 655

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# What is Controlling?

- The creation of a link, internal to OCLC systems, between a heading in a bibliographic record and an authority record
- Controlling ensures that if an authority record term changes, the term in the bibliographic record will change too





# Connexion Controlling of 655

- Library of Congress Genre/Form Terms (LCGFT) is the only vocabulary that is controlled in field 655

655	7	Scores #2 fast #0 (OCoLC)fst01692898
655	7	Bagatelles (Music) #2 fast #0 (OCoLC)fst02002542
655	7	<a href="#">Scores.</a> #2 lcgft
655	7	<a href="#">Bagatelles (Music)</a> #2 lcgft

*FAST headings are added based on LCGFT, but only LCGFT terms are controllable.*

# Record Manager (RM) Controlling of 655

- Several vocabularies are controlled in field 655
- Library of Congress Genre/Form Terms (LCGFT)
- Art and Architecture Thesaurus (AAT)
- Thésaurus des descripteurs de genre/forme de l'Université Laval (RVMGF)
- Términos de género/forma de la Biblioteca Nacional de España (TGBNE)
- Faceted Application of Subject Terminology (FAST)
- Medical Subject Headings (MeSH)
  - Use 2nd indicator “2”

# MeSH in Connexion

650	2	Anatomy. #0	<a href="https://id.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/D000715">https://id.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/D000715</a>
650	2	Cells. #0	<a href="https://id.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/D002477">https://id.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/D002477</a>
655	2	Review. #0	<a href="https://id.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/D016454">https://id.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/D016454</a>
655	2	Periodicals. #0	<a href="https://id.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/D020492">https://id.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/D020492</a>

*“Periodicals” is not the authorized MeSH term.*

# MeSH in RM

650	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	<a href="#">Anatomy</a>
650	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	<a href="#">Cells</a>
655	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	<a href="#">Review</a>
655	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	<a href="#">Periodical</a>

Control Heading	
The controlled heading is associated with a single authority record.	
<b>Original Heading</b> Periodicals \$0 <a href="https://id.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/D020492">https://id.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/D020492</a>	
	<b>Heading</b>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<a href="#">Periodical</a> [655]

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# OTHER WAYS TO RECORD GENRE/FORM

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# Form Subdivision in a Subject Heading

- Subfield ≠v (Form subdivision) may be used in several 6XX fields to denote the genre/form of the resource described
- Subject Headings Manual (SHM) H 1075 Subdivisions, 1.d. *Form subdivisions*
  - Most form subdivisions may also be used as topical subdivisions (subfield ≠x) for works about those forms
  - Usually, the final element in a heading
  - You may have multiple form subdivisions in a heading
- Number of SHM instructions about subdivisions make application difficult

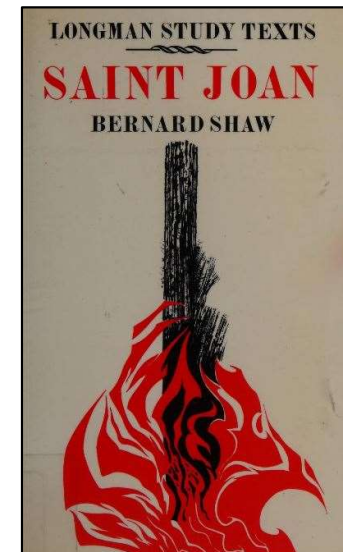
# Form Subdivision Examples

- Subfield ≠v Drama

- |     |   |   |  |
|-----|---|---|--|
| 100 | 1 |   | Shaw, Bernard, ≠d 1856-1950.   |
| 245 | 1 | 0 | Saint Joan / ≠c Bernard Shaw ; edited by Peter Farquhar ; with a personal essay by John Russell Brown. |
| 600 | 0 | 0 | Joan, ≠c of Arc, Saint, ≠d 1412-1431 <b>≠v Drama.</b>  |

- Subfield ≠v Periodicals

- |     |   |   |   |
|-----|---|---|---|
| 245 | 0 | 0 | Journal of real estate literature.                      |
| 650 |   | 0 | Real estate business <b>≠v Periodicals.</b>             |
| 650 |   | 0 | English language <b>≠v Bibliography ≠v Periodicals.</b> |



# Display Problem with Form Subdivisions

- The public catalog display does not show a difference between a form subdivision and a topical subdivision

610	2	0	<a href="#">Geological Survey of Canada. #b Library #v Catalogs.</a>
650	0		<a href="#">Geology #x Periodicals #v Bibliography #v Catalogs.</a>
650	6		Géologie #0 (CaQQLa)201-0009524 #x Périodiques #0 (CaQQLa)201-0380548 (CaQQLa)201-0380548
610	2	7	Geological Survey of Canada. #b Library. #2 fast #0 (OCoLC)fst00587196
650	7		Geology #x Periodicals. #2 fast #0 (OCoLC)fst00940679
655	7		Bibliographies. #2 fast #0 (OCoLC)fst01919895
655	7		Catalogs. #2 fast #0 (OCoLC)fst01423692



- [Bibliographies](#)
- [Catalogs](#)
- [Geological Survey of Canada. Library](#)
- [Geological Survey of Canada. Library Catalogs](#)
- [Geology Periodicals](#)
- [Geology Periodicals Bibliography Catalogs](#)
- [Géologie Périodiques Bibliographie Catalogues](#)

# OCLC Fixed Field Elements

- OCLC Fixed Field is equivalent to MARC 21 Bibliographic Leader and Field 008 (Fixed-Length Data Elements)
- There are some elements that indicate genre/form, such as
  - Type: Type of Record
  - Biog: Biography
  - Comp: Form of Composition
  - LitF: Literary Form
- The choices for element values is limited, and if/how this information is conveyed to users is system-specific



# Fixed Field Example

Scores	Rec stat	c	Entered	19810206	Replaced	20220					
Type	c	ELvl		Srce	c	Audn		Ctrl		Lang	eng
BLvl	m	Form		Comp	op	AccM	h z	MRec		Ctry	nyu
		Part		TrAr	b						
Desc	i	FMus	k	LTxt	n	DtSt	t	Dates	1966	,	1950

- Type: c = Notated music
- Comp: op = Operas
- FMus: k = Vocal score

# Field 380 in Bibliographic Records

- “A class or genre to which a work belongs”
- Field 380 (Form of Work) may be used in both authority and bibliographic records
- Any term recorded in 380 subfield #a would also be suitable for 655 #a
  - Not all 655 terms are suitable for field 380
- Control headings is not available for this field so 655 may be preferable

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# CONCLUSION

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**“It’s a blessing  
and a curse at  
the same time,  
the idea of  
genre”**

--Thundercat (Musician)

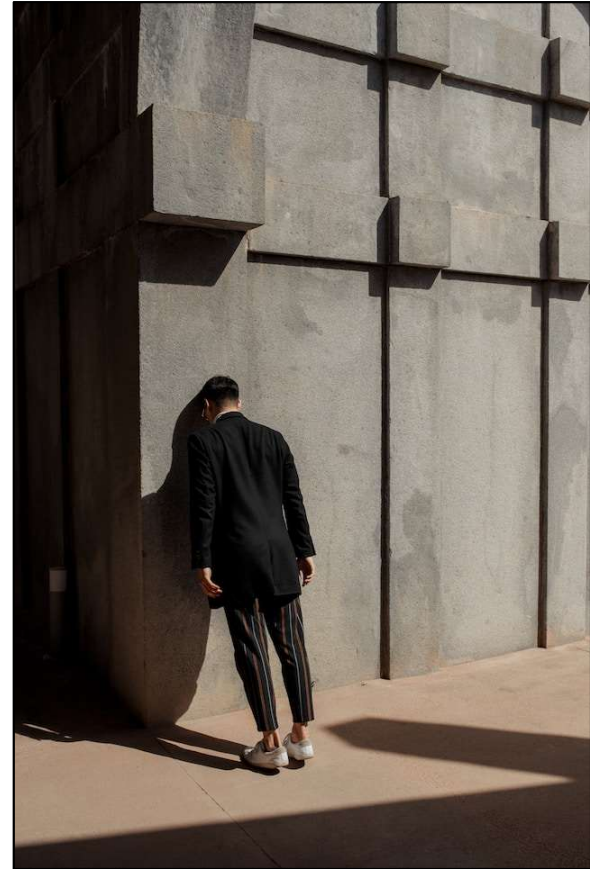


Photo by [Daniel Mingook Kim](#) on [Unsplash](#)

# Words of Advice

- Always look it up!
  - Many genre/form vocabularies are freely available
  - LCGFT is available in Connexion and Record Manager
  - Read the scope notes when available
- Control headings when you can
- Keep it simple
  - In field 655, use subfields #a and #2 with second indicator “7”

# For More Information

- Bibliographic Formats and Standards (BFAS), 655 Index Term
  - <https://www.oclc.org/bibformats/en/6xx/655.html>
- Frequently Asked Questions about Library of Congress Genre/Form Terms for Library and Archival Materials (LCGFT)
  - [https://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsd/genre\\_form\\_faq.pdf](https://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsd/genre_form_faq.pdf)
- Library of Congress Genre/Form Terms Introduction and Manual
  - PDFs available at <https://www.loc.gov/aba/publications/FreeLCGFT/freelcgft.html>

# Machine Learning Merging Update

- 500,000 duplicates pairs identified by the ML model
- Print book resources in English, French, German, Italian, and Spanish
- Over 432,000 duplicates removed from WorldCat
- Successful initial run with only 1 minor issue reported
- Merging continues with additional book record duplicates
- Send feedback to [bibchange@oclc.org](mailto:bibchange@oclc.org)

# On the Call Today



**Hayley Moreno**  
Senior Data Analyst



**Kate James**  
Program Coordinator  
Metadata Engagement



**Bryan Baldus**  
Senior Data Analyst



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Senior Data Analyst



# Thank You!

## October 2023 Virtual AskQC Office Hours

Meeting librarians where they are today:  
Incorporating linked data into existing library workflows

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Tuesday, 10 October at 10:00 AM Eastern  
Thursday, 19 October at 4:00 PM Eastern

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Registration and session links  
available at [oclc.org/askqc](https://oclc.org/askqc)

Send cataloging policy questions at  
any time to [askqc@oclc.org](mailto:askqc@oclc.org)



Photo by [Eric Rothermel](#) on [Unsplash](#)