



Finding Books: Call Numbers & Locations

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UW Libraries Call Numbers

UW Libraries use several different types of call numbers. The most common are Library of Congress (LC), Superintendent of Documents (SuDoc), Dewey Decimal, and University Departmental designations for theses and dissertations.

Library of Congress (LC)

Library of Congress classification is used for call numbers in most academic libraries in the U.S. LC call numbers use a combination of 1 to 3 letters and numbers to organize books **by subject**. Read the number like this:

Read call numbers line by line:

The diagram shows a yellow box containing the call number **LB 2395 .C65 1991**. Lines connect each part of the call number to an explanatory text block:

- LB**: Read the first line in alphabetical order: A, B, BF, C, D ... L, LA, LB, LC, M, ML ...
- 2395**: Read the second line as a whole number: 1, 2, 3, 45, 100, 101, 1000, 2000, 2430 ...
- .C65**: 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 .C724 = .724 (Some call numbers have more than one combination letter-number line.)
- 1991**: This is the year the book was published. Chronological order: 1985, 1987, 1991, 1992 ...

(Image from Honolulu Community College Library)

Superintendent of Documents (SuDoc)

Superintendent of Documents (SuDoc) classification numbers are used for government documents, especially those received as part of the Federal Depository Library Program. SuDoc Classification uses letters and numbers to organize documents **by agency**. SuDoc numbers are read as whole numbers like this:

C 61.34:993

C	61.	34:	993
Commerce Department (issuing agency)	International Trade Administration (subordinate bureau within the agency)	Number used to designate the title	Year of publication (1993)

Dewey Decimal (DDC)

Dewey decimal call numbers are used by most public libraries, school, and some academic libraries. Coe Library and the Learning Resources Center (LRC) have materials with these call numbers. Dewey call numbers organize books **by subject**. Read Dewey numbers as whole numbers before the decimal point and decimals after the point. Letters after the decimal come before numbers. For example:

813.04 O38	813.054 Y478	813.13 I32	813.198 O39	813.2 B35
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Theses and Dissertations

University of Wyoming theses and dissertations are arranged by University Department, year, and then by author. Call numbers for theses and dissertations look like this:

Anthrop 2000 .C15, Bot 2000 .T215, etc.

(Anthropology) (Botany)

Locations

In addition to the call number, books are identified in the UW Libraries Catalog by location. Use this guide to find materials in Coe Library:

000-899 (Dewey), Audio-Visual, Microforms, Computer Lab, Government Documents, Theses, Disability Support Services Lab	Basement
Current Periodicals and Newspapers, Coe Reference, Atlas, MIndex	First Floor
A-HM 261, Folios	Second Floor
HM 263-PN 4874	Third Floor
PN 4875-RZ (Quiet Study Floor)	Fourth Floor
U-Z, Science and Geology Storage	Fifth Floor

