
THEOLOGY CATALOGING BULLETIN

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Theology Cataloging Bulletin (TCB), is a quarterly publication of the Technical Services Interest Group of ATLA and is published in November, February, May, and August. It contains information about new and changed Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) and Library of Congress Classification (LCC) numbers compiled from the Library of Congress's monthly lists of newly approved additions, deletions, and changes in subject headings and classifications. Upcoming training opportunities, a bibliography of recently published articles, as well as other information of interest to religion/theology catalogers are also included.

Section one of each issue lists new and changed subject headings and genre/form terms and section two lists new and changed classification. Both are selected and compiled by Ann Heinrichs (Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, Illinois). Section three includes the general information and is edited by Leslie Engelson (Murray State University, Murray, Kentucky).

Submissions for the newsletter should be sent to Leslie Engelson, Technical Services Librarian, Murray State University, 224G Waterfield Library, Murray, KY 42071; E-mail: leslie.engelson@gmail.com; Fax: 270-809-5612, Phone: 270-809-4818.

Deadlines for submission are January 15 (February issue), April 15 (May issue), and July 15 (August issue), October 15 (November issue).

Appropriate types of submissions: news of upcoming events; articles on technical services issues; reviews of publications; reports on committee work done on behalf of the Technical Services Section; opinions on cataloging policies and practices; bibliographies; cataloging cartoons and anecdotes; how-to and how-not-to advice; workshop reports; summaries of papers; questions and answers on topics of concern; local cataloging department news; evaluations of software, hardware, cataloging tools and products, Web sites, etc.

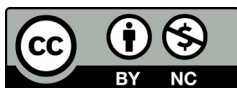
Unsigned contributions are supplied by the editor.

Subscription inquiries regarding *Theology Cataloging Bulletin* should be addressed to: ATTN: Member Representative, American Theological Library Association, 300 South Wacker Drive, Suite 2100, Chicago, IL 60606-6701 USA; Toll-free: 888.665.ATLA, Outside N. America: 312.454.5100, Fax: 312.454.5505, E-mail: MemberRep@atla.com.

The *Theology Cataloging Bulletin* is free to members of the American Theological Library Association, available on the ATLA website at: <http://www.atla.com/community>.

Non-members may subscribe for \$55.00/year. Please make checks payable to “The American Theological Library Association.”

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Section One: New and Changed Headings

The headings in this list were selected from the monthly Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) Approved Lists. LC's Policy and Standards Division posts these lists on the Library of Congress Cataloging and Acquisitions web site at: <http://www.loc.gov/aba/cataloging/subject/weeklylists/>.

The new subject headings listed here reflect the most recent information available at the time of publication. Headings in this issue's list were selected from the 2017 list numbers 10 (October 16), 11 (November 20), and 12 (December 18, 2017).

The new genre/form terms listed here came from LCSH list numbers 10, 11, and 12. No new demographic group terms in the field of theology were issued this quarter.

Since early 2007, the Library of Congress has been developing *Library of Congress Genre/Form Terms for Library and Archival Materials (LCGFT)*, whose terms describe what something is rather than what it is about, as subject headings do, and are used in MARC field 655 †a of bibliographic records.

Examples: 655 _7 †a Liturgical books. †2 lcgft
 655 _0 †a Shape-note hymnals.

(See full instructions in OCLC Bibliographic Formats and Standards, [655 Index Term—Genre/Form.](#))

The Library of Congress is also developing a vocabulary entitled *Library of Congress Demographic Group Terms (LCDGT)*. These terms are used in MARC field 368 †c of name authority records. NACO participants in the ATLA funnel are encouraged to use terms from the Thesaurus of Religious Occupational Terms (TROT) when possible.

Examples: 368 __ †c Religious converts. †2 lcdgt
 368 __ †c Rural clergy. †2 trot

More information about LCDGT is available at <http://www.loc.gov/aba/publications/FreeLCDGT/freelcdgt.html>. This website provides the draft *Demographic Group Terms Manual* as well as an introduction to demographic group terms, a list of approved terms in PDF format, and a link to authority records for the LCDGT vocabulary in MARC UTF-8 format.

The most updated versions of both genre/form terms and demographic group terms, along with their authority records, appear in LC's web-based subscription product, *Classification Web*.

In this issue of *TCB*, as in previous issues, the following conventions are used:

All headings are in alphabetical order. Subject headings **without** the instruction [May Subd Geog] are **not** to be further divided by place. The number in square brackets is the Library of Congress Control Number (LCCN) for that heading's authority record (not the ARN/Authority Record Number). LCCNs for new demographic group terms have the prefix *dg*.

All lines begin with their MARC tag. Most headings are followed by other MARC fields that occur in the authority record (e.g., 053, 450, 550, 682), along with explanatory abbreviations:

UF = Used For
BT = Broader Term
RT = Related Term
SA = See Also

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Subject Headings

- 150 Aránzazu, Nuestra Señora de [Not Subd Geog] [sp2017004621]
450 UF Ama Birjiña Arántzazuko
450 UF Arántzazuko, Ama Birjiña
450 UF Nuestra Señora de Aránzazu
450 UF Our Lady of Aranzazu
450 UF Virgen de Aránzazu
450 UF Virgin of Aranzazu
500 BT Mary, Blessed Virgin, Saint--Devotion to--Spain
- 150 Avalokiteśvara (Buddhist deity) CANCEL HEADING [sp 85010492]
682 This authority record has been deleted because the subject heading is covered by an identical name heading (DLC)n 2017054713
- 150 Buddhist hymns, Indonesian [May Subd Geog] [sp2016002087]
450 UF Indonesian Buddhist hymns
- 150 Buddhist literature, Pa'ò [May Subd Geog] [sp2017004673]
450 UF Pa'ò Buddhist literature
550 BT Pa'ò literatur
- 150 Christian antiquities [May Subd Geog] [sp 85025009]
550 RT Christian art and symbolism DELETE FIELD
- 150 Christian art and symbolism [May Subd Geog] [sp 85025011]
450 UF Religious art, Christian DELETE FIELD
450 UF Sacred art DELETE FIELD
550 BT Art DELETE FIELD
550 RT Christian antiquities DELETE FIELD
550 BT Religious art ADD FIELD
- 150 Christianity--African influences [sp2017004504]
551 BT Africa—Civilization
- 150 Coastal biodiversity conservation--Religious aspects [sp2017003063]
- 150 Coastal biodiversity conservation--Religious aspects--Buddhism, [Christianity, etc.] [sp2017003064]
- 150 Ḍākinī (Buddhist deity) CANCEL HEADING [sp 85035482]
682 This authority record has been deleted because the subject heading is covered by an identical name heading (DLC)n 2017242624
- 150 Durgā (Hindu deity) CANCEL HEADING [sp 85040043]
682 This authority record has been deleted because the subject heading is covered by an identical name heading (DLC)n 2017244199

- 150 Durgā (Hindu deity) in literature CANCEL HEADING [sp 94003986]
682 This authority record has been deleted because the heading is replaced by the heading Durgā (Hindu deity)--In literature, a heading for which a subject authority record is not made because it uses a free-floating subdivision.
- 150 General Baptists [sp2017004873]
550 BT Baptists
- 150 Gifts causa mortis (Islamic law) [May Subd Geog] [sp2017004375]
053 KBP636.2
550 BT Islamic law
- 150 Hymns, Ewe [May Subd Geog] [sp2016001541]
450 UF Ewe hymns
- 150 I AM Religious Activity hymns [May Subd Geog] [sp2017004726]
053 M2145.I3
450 UF Hymns, I AM Religious Activity
- 150 IFLA Library Reference Model [May Subd Geog] [sp2017004509]
053 Z666.63.I44
450 UF FRBR-Library Reference Model
450 UF FRBR-LRM (Conceptual model)
450 UF IFLA LRM (Conceptual model)
450 UF International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions Library Reference Model
450 UF Library Reference Model, IFLA
550 BT Entity-relationship modeling
- 150 Jewish women comedians [May Subd Geog] [sp2017003302]
550 BT Jewish comedians
550 BT Women comedians
- 150 Jewish women in popular culture [May Subd Geog] [sp2017003301]
550 BT Popular culture
- 150 Judaism and international relations [May Subd Geog] [sp2017003099]
053 BM538.I57
450 UF International relations--Religious aspects--Judaism
450 UF International relations and Judaism
550 BT International relations
- 150 Kemeticism [May Subd Geog] [sp2017003136]
053 BP605.K46
450 UF Egyptian Neopaganism
450 UF Kemetic Reconstructionism
450 UF Kemetic religion
450 UF Kemetism
450 UF Neopaganism, Egyptian
450 UF Neterism
450 UF Reconstructionism, Kemetic
550 BT Religions

- 680 Here are entered works on the modern revival of ancient Egyptian religion.
- 150 Library metadata [May Subd Geog] [sp2017004510]
 450 UF Library resource metadata
 450 UF Library resources--Metadata
 550 BT Metadata
- 150 Maha Shivaratri (Hindu festival) [May Subd Geog] [sp2017004251]
 053 BL1239.82.M32
 450 UF Great Night of Śiva (Hindu festival)
 450 UF Mahāśivarātri (Hindu festival)
 450 UF Night of Śiva (Hindu festival)
 450 UF Śiva, Great Night of (Hindu festival)
 450 UF Śiva, Night of (Hindu festival)
 550 BT Fasts and feasts--Hinduism
- 150 Mi-Carême [May Subd Geog] [sp2017004465]
 550 BT Festivals
- 150 Missionaries [May Subd Geog] [sp 85086017]
 550 BT Christians DELETE FIELD
 550 BT Religious adherents ADD FIELD
- 150 Mujaddidiyah [May Subd Geog] [sp2017004565]
 053 BP189.7.M84-BP189.7.M842
 450 UF Müceddidilik
 450 UF Mujaddidi
 450 UF Mujaddidiyya
 550 BT Sufism
- 150 Mythology, Tahitian [May Subd Geog] [sp2016002295]
 450 UF Tahitian mythology
- 150 Psalms (Music)--141st Psalm [sp2017004605]
 450 UF Domine clamavi (Music)
- 150 Religious art [May Subd Geog] [sp2017004265]
 360 SA subject heading Art qualified by specific religions, styles, or time periods
 450 UF Sacred art
 550 BT Art
 680 Here are entered works on religious art in general, not limited to a particular religion or belief system.
- 150 Religious art CANCEL HEADING [sp 85112607]
 682 This authority record has been deleted because the general reference is being replaced by the subject heading Religious art (DLC)sh2017004265
- 150 Suffering in the Qur'an [sp2017004865]
 150 Valvanera, Nuestra Señora de [Not Subd Geog] [sp2017004622]
 450 UF Nuestra Señora de Valvanera
 450 UF Our Lady of Valvanera

- 450 UF Virgen de Valvanera
- 450 UF Virgin of Valvanera
- 500 BT Mary, Blessed Virgin, Saint--Devotion to--Spain

- 150 Western Wall (Jerusalem) [sp 85146290]
 - 450 UF Al-Buraq Wall (Jerusalem) ADD FIELD
 - 450 UF Burāq, Ḥā'it al- (Jerusalem) ADD FIELD
 - 450 UF Ḥā'it al-Burāq (Jerusalem) ADD FIELD
 - 450 UF Ḥā'it al-Mabká (Jerusalem) ADD FIELD
 - 450 UF Kotel ha-Ma'aravi (Jerusalem) ADD FIELD
 - 450 UF Ma'aravi, Kotel ha- (Jerusalem) ADD FIELD
 - 450 UF Mabká Ḥā'it al- (Jerusalem) ADD FIELD

Genre/Form Terms

- 155 Bible comics [gp2017026108]
 - 455 UF Biblical comics
 - 555 BT Religious comics

- 155 Hymn tunes [gp2017026134]
 - 555 BT Music
 - 681 Note under Hymns

- 155 Hymns [gp2014026872]
 - 680 Sacred songs that are normally associated with worship services and are typically suitable for singing by a full assembly. For texts of hymns that appear without a musical setting, see Hymn texts.
DELETE FIELD
 - 680 Sacred songs that are normally associated with worship services and are typically suitable for singing by a full assembly. For texts of hymns that appear without a musical setting see Hymn texts. For instrumental hymn music that appears without accompanying sung text, see Hymn tunes.
ADD FIELD

- 155 Memorial music [gp2017026101]
 - 455 UF Commemorative music
 - 555 BT Commemorative works
 - 555 BT Functional music

- 155 Memorial service programs [gp2014026126]
 - 555 BT Commemorative works ADD FIELD

- 155 Purim music [gp2017026115]
 - 455 UF Feast of Esther music
 - 455 UF Feast of Lots music
 - 555 BT Event music
 - 680 Music that is traditionally associated with Purim.

- 155 Sacred music [gp2014027062]
 - 455 UF Liturgical music ADD FIELD
- 155 Synagogue music [gp2017026116]
 - 455 UF Synagogal music
 - 455 UF Synagogical music

Section Two: LC Classification Additions and Changes, Class B–BX and Selected Others

The entries in this list were selected from the monthly Library of Congress Classification (LCC) Approved Lists. LC's Policy and Standards Division posts these lists on the Library of Congress Cataloging and Acquisitions web site at: <http://www.loc.gov/aba/cataloging/classification/weeklylists/>.

Items listed here reflect the most recent information available at the time of publication. Entries in this issue's list were selected from 2017 LCC list numbers 10 (October 16), 11 (November 20), and 12 (December 18).

The full hierarchy is provided for new and revised classification captions to show their context within the classification. Numbers that appear in square brackets are not displayed in Classification Web browse screens. They are shown on this list only to indicate the location of the corresponding caption or reference within the classification.

The class letters (B, BS, etc.) identify the schedule in which changes and additions have been made. This list also includes selected changes and additions outside the B–BX classes relating to religious topics or library science.

Please send any comments, suggestions, or corrections to me at:

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Class BJ

Ethics

Individual ethics. Character. Virtue

Vices

Special vices, A-Z

BJ1535.F55

Flattery CANCEL

BJ1535.F55

Flattery

Including toadyism

[BJ1535.T632]

Toadyism see BJ1535.F55

Class BL

Religions. Mythology. Rationalism

Religion

Religious life

Special classes of persons

BL625.25

Blacks

History and principles of religions

Asian. Oriental

By religion

Hinduism

Practice. Forms of worship. Religious life

Religious life. Spiritual life. Discipline

Festivals. Fasts and feasts. Days and seasons

Special, A-Z

BL1239.82.M32

Maha Shivaratri

By region or country

China

Special religions

Taoism

Other special topics, A-Z

BL1942.85.P36

Pangu (Chinese mythological character)

Southeast Asia

By region or country

Vietnam

By ethnic group, A-Z

BL2059.T53

Thai Deng

African

By ethnic group, etc., A-Z

BL2480.W33

Waci

Class BM

Judaism

Relation of Judaism to special subject fields

Other, A-Z

BM538.I57

International relations

Class BP

Islam. Bahai Faith. Theosophy, etc.

Islam

BP167
(BP167)

Addresses, essays, lectures. Pamphlets, etc. CANCEL
Addresses, essays, lectures. Pamphlets, etc. see BP165

The practice of Islam

Islamic religious life (Descriptive works)

Sufism. Mysticism. Dervishes. *تيفوص*

Monasticism. Sufi orders. Brotherhoods

Individual orders, A-Z

BP189.7.M84-.M842

Mujaddidiyah TABLE BP3

Topics (not otherwise provided for), A-Z

BP190.5.P33

Pawnbroking

Other beliefs and movements

Works. By movement, A-Z

BP605.K46

Kemeticism

Class BQ

Buddhism

Tripitaka. 大藏經. 三藏 (Canonical literature)

By version

Divisions not limited to a particular linguistic version

Sūtrapitaka. 經藏

Early Buddhist suttas

Majjhimanikāya. 中部. 中阿含

Individual suttas, A-Z

BQ1320.M36-.M369

Mahāsihanādasutta TABLE BQ3

Class BR

Christianity

Biography

Individual biography

Early Christian biography to ca. 600, A-Z

BR1720.O49

Olympias, Saint, approximately 368-408

BR1720.P768

Prodocimo, Saint, Bishop of Padua, active 3rd century

Class BS

The Bible

General

Texts and versions

Modern texts and versions

Non-European languages

Languages of Oceania and Australasia (Austronesian, Papuan,
and Australian), A-Z

BS335.B515

Bilaan TABLE BS5

Works about the Bible

Men, women, and children of the Bible

BS580.D45
Biography
Individual Old Testament characters, A-Z
Delilah

Old Testament
Works about the Old Testament
Topics (not otherwise provided for), A-Z
Nature
Cf. BS1199.T695 Trees
Trees

Class KBR

History of canon law
Sources
Collections. Compilations. Selections
Canonical collections of councils and synods
Diocesan councils and synods
European countries
Italy
Catholic Church. Diocese of Treviso
General
Synod of 1911

[KBR1010.T74-.T746]
KBR1010.T74
KBR1010.T746

Class M

Music
Vocal music
Sacred vocal music
Hymnals. Hymn collections
Other religions, A-Z
I Am Religious Activity

M2145.I3

Liturgy and ritual
Roman Catholic Church
Printed music
Antiphonaries
Single offices, A-Z
Demetrius, Saint, active 4th century
Julian, of Le Mans, Saint, active 4th century?
Vespers
William, of York, Saint, -1154

M2149.5.D53
M2149.5.J85
M2149.5.W55

Class ML

By religion or denomination
Christian
Catholic
Roman Catholic
By region or country
Other regions or countries, A-Z
Slovakia TABLE M7

ML3051.S54-.S546

Class PA

Medieval and modern Latin literature
Individual authors or works
Modern, 1350-
Alciati, Andrea, 1492-1550
Cf. KBR2074.A54 Canon law

[PA8450.A58]

Class PN

Journalism
Journalism. The periodical press, etc.
Special relations
Relation to ethics, religion, etc.
Cf. PN4784.F27 Fake news

[PN4756]

Class Z

Libraries
Library science. Information science
Information organization
Conceptual models
Other individual models, A-Z
IFLA Library Reference Model

Z666.63.I44

Section Three: News and Views (of the Members of the ATLA Technical Services Section)

NEWS

THE FUTURE OF TCB

Some exciting changes are coming to the *Theology Cataloging Bulletin (TCB)*. In January 2019, the *TCB* will become available open access on the same platform on which *Theological Librarianship* resides. Additionally, the publication schedule will change with the first issue of volume 27 coinciding with its release as an open access publication. The *Bulletin* will continue to be published quarterly with issues published in January, April, July, and October. Be mindful that the fourth and final issue of volume 26 will be in August of this year. These changes will mean that the publication pattern will shift to a more logical schedule and the content of *TCB* will be available to anyone.

Submitted by
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Theology Cataloging Bulletin Editor

SACO

Watch for information about a Webinar later this spring promoting the inauguration of the ATLA SACO funnel.

Submitted by
Richard Lammert, Technical Services & Systems Librarian
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ATLA Funnels Coordinator

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Metadata Design

Learn the tools of metadata design, design an XML schema, and apply these elements to existing metadata schemas.

March 5-30, 2018

<http://libraryjuiceacademy.com/105-metadata-design.php>

Library Juice Academy

\$175

Library of Congress BIBFRAME Pilot Phase Two

Understand the initiative and advancements with BIBFRAME. Includes a review of LD4P initiatives, PCC's BIBFRAME Task Group, and RDA's influence on BIBFRAME 2.

March 7, 2018

<http://www.ala.org/alcts/confevents/upcoming/webinar/100417>

ALCTS

FREE

From MARC to BIBFRAME: Linked Data on the Ground

Six webinars from 2016 that describe the continuing BIBFRAME initiatives taking place at the Library of Congress

March 7-May 2, 2018

<http://www.ala.org/alcts/confevents/upcoming/webinar/MARCtoBIBFRAME>

ALCTS

FREE

Fundamentals of Collection Development & Assessment

Learn tools and techniques to assess both print and electronic collections.

March 12-April 20, 2018

http://www.ala.org/alcts/confevents/upcoming/webcourse/fca/ol_templ

ALCTS

\$139-\$169

Introduction to Cataloging

Library Juice Academy

An introduction to the tools and technique of cataloging, including RDA, subject cataloging, and MARC.

April 2-7, 2018

\$175

<http://libraryjuiceacademy.com/005-intro-cataloging.php>

Using MarcEdit

Library Juice Academy

Covering both basic functionality as well as more sophisticated uses, such as regular expressions and creating MARC records from vendor spreadsheet, this course is appropriate for both new and experienced users of MarcEdit.

June 4-29, 2018

\$175

<http://libraryjuiceacademy.com/180-MarcEdit.php>

Submitted by

Leslie Engelson, Metadata Librarian

Waterfield Library, Murray State University

SELECTED ARTICLES FROM CURRENT LIBRARY JOURNALS

- Breeding, Marshall. "Open Source Library Systems: The Current State of the Art." *Library Technology Reports* 53, no. 6 (August/September, 2017): 5-35.
- Flynn, Emily Alinder and Erin Kilkenny. "Cataloging from the Center: Improving e-Book Cataloging on a Consortial Level." *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly* 55, no. 7/8 (October 2017): 630-643.
- Guay, Beth. "A Case Study on the Path to Resource Discovery." *Information Technology & Libraries* 36, no. 3 (September 2017): 18-48. DOI: 10.6017/ital.v36i3.9966 <https://ejournals.bc.edu/ojs/index.php/ital/article/view/9966>
- Harveland, Jennifer. "Library Inventory Methods: Using Flexibility and Creativity to Achieve a Common Goal Within a Federated Library System." *Collaborative Librarianship* 9, no. 3 (July 2017): 1-13. <https://digitalcommons.du.edu/collaborativelibrarianship/vol9/iss3/4>
- Hoepfner, Athena. "Database Lists A to Z: A Practitioner's Tips and Caveats for Managing Database Lists." *Serials Librarian* 73, no. 1 (September 2017): 27-43.
- Ndungu, Miriam Wanjiku. "Bibliographic Control of Theses and Dissertations in Kenya." *Library Review* 66, no. 6 (2017): 523-534.
- O'Neill, Edward T., Kerre A. Kammerer, and Rick Bennett. "The Aboutness of Words." *Journal of the Association for Information Science & Technology* 68, no. 10 (October 2017): 2471-2483.
- Robbeloth, Hilary, Matthew Ragucci, and Kristina DeShazo. "Evidence-Based Acquisition: A Real Life Account of Managing the Program within the Orbis Cascade Alliance." *Serials Librarian* 73, no. 3/4 (November 2017): 240-247.
- Schultz, William N. and Lindsay Braddy. "A Librarian-Centered Study of Perceptions of Subject Terms and Controlled Vocabulary." *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly* 55, no. 7/8 (October 2017): 456-466.
- Strader, C. Rockelle. "From User Tasks to User Services: Placing the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records Models into a Larger Framework." *Technical Services Quarterly* 34, no. 4 (October 2017): 347-368.
- Szostak, Rick. "A Grammatical Approach to Subject Classification in Museums." *Knowledge Organization* 44, no. 7 (November 15, 2017): 494-505.
- Ullah, Asim, Shah Khusro, and Irfan Ullah. "Bibliographic Classification in the Digital Age: Current Trends and Future Directions." *Information Technology and Libraries (Online)* 36, no. 3 (September 2017): 48-77. DOI: 10.6017/ital.v36i3.8930 <https://ejournals.bc.edu/ojs/index.php/ital/article/view/8930>
- Wahl, Mary. "Full Stream Ahead: Designing a Collection Development Workflow for Streaming Video Content." *Library Resources & Technical Services* 61, no. 4 (October 2017): 226-236.

Weng, Cathy and Erin Ackerman. "Towards Sustainable Partnership: Examining Cross Perceptions of Public and Technical Services Academic Librarians." *Library Resources & Technical Services* 61, no. 4 (October 2017): 198-211.

Submitted by
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John Bulow Campbell Library, Columbia Theological Seminary

TESTIMONY

The San Miguel Library: A Bicultural Library in a Bicultural Town

I hadn't expected it to be a busman's holiday. I had run off for a week to San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, in hopes of sorting out some personal issues and properly grieving for my recently departed dad. In short, I just needed to get away from it all — to be still and quiet. But I had heard that San Miguel's public library had some spectacular murals on its ceilings and walls. Surely, I thought, it wouldn't upset my serenity to stroll over there and take a peek. I ended up visiting the library three times, spending hours taking photos, and interviewing librarians.



The central courtyard.



A private English class in the open-air portico.

A Unique Design

Although the front of the building says *Biblioteca Pública* ("Public Library"), the library's official, legal name is *Biblioteca Pública de San Miguel de Allende, A.C.* The "A.C." means *Asociación Civil*, meaning a not-for-profit.

The library is situated around a central courtyard where people can sit and read at umbrellaed tables — even on a rainy day, which it was when I first visited. From the courtyard, visitors can stroll through a wide, covered portico — U-shaped and lined with columns — into the book rooms.

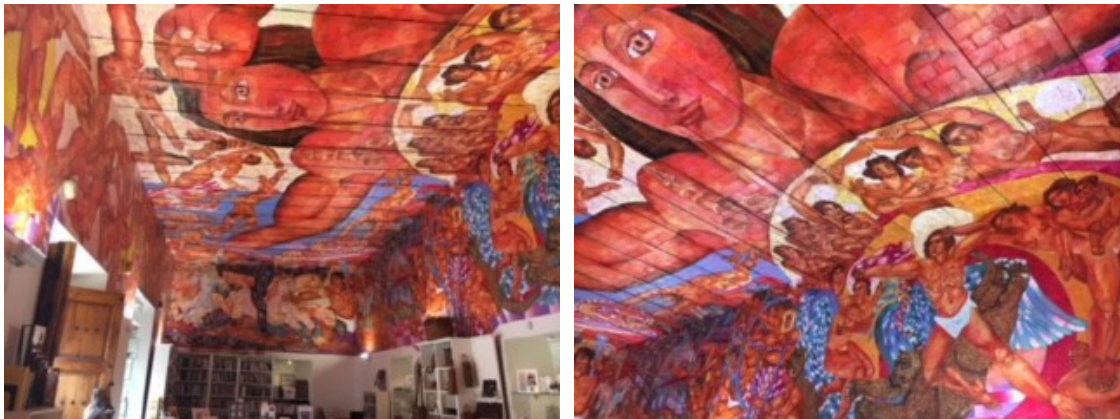
The portico itself functions as a multi-purpose people space with benches, long tables with chairs, and small, two-person tables. Some of the activities going on there on a random summer day were: teenagers chattering animatedly, students studying quietly, a woman teaching English to a middle-aged man, and two artists selling their paintings and handcrafts.

Besides the book rooms, the library has a bookstore, a restaurant, a room for programs and presentations, a theater for performances, and a cut-rate shopping space. It wasn't long before I laid eyes on the much-heralded murals.

Just to the left of the entrance, one's eyes are irresistibly drawn to a luscious palette of reds, oranges, and sepia tones — the ceiling and walls of the bookstore. When the bookstore manager told me the artist's name, I was momentarily confused — was it Jacques-Louis David? or Leonardo da Vinci? In fact, it was Mexican artist David Leonardo, whose murals also adorn the Sala Quetzal, one of the library's presentation spaces.

Expats Open a Library

San Miguel's library reflects its community. The town itself is thoroughly bicultural, with American, Canadian, and European expatriates a part of the local ambience. After World War II, San Miguel's Instituto Allende attracted many former soldiers seeking an education on the GI bill. (It was an approved institution by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.) Many veterans stayed; meanwhile, artists began drifting into San Miguel (including, at various times, Diego Rivera and Frida



Murals by Mexican artist David Leonardo in the library bookstore.



The library in its early days. Source: *Biblioteca Pública de San Miguel de Allende* <http://bibliotecasma.com/our-story/>

Kahlo), eventually establishing the town as an artists' colony. Over the years, foreign retirees and others found San Miguel, with its year-round felicitous climate and low cost of living, an attractive place to sink down roots.

Today, among the roughly 75,000 residents of the city proper, about 10,000 are expats, and they have a great impact on San Miguel's cultural life. A notable example is the public library. It began in 1954 when Helen Wale, a Canadian expat, opened her home as a library for Mexican children. It became so popular, so packed with books and little patrons, that Helen petitioned the state governor to provide her with a space for a public library. Provide it he did — and what a space!

In 1734, in the building where the library now resides, a group of priests opened a shelter home for women. Single, widowed, and abandoned women were welcomed and cared for there until political conditions forced it to close in the 1860s. The building found new life again, if you could call it that, in the early 1900s, when it became San Miguel's slaughterhouse. When that operation moved elsewhere, the building lay dormant until the library took over in 1958. Oh, what a cleanup job the new tenants had to do! Well, just imagine moving into a slaughterhouse that workers had simply vacated. At last, the brand-new library opened its doors. Since then it has grown into a major institution in the city — and one that weaves together San Miguel's Mexican and non-Mexican cultures.



The library's Café Santa Ana

San Miguel's public library is now the largest bilingual library in Mexico outside of the capital city, providing library services to both the Spanish-speaking and the English-speaking communities. For adults, there is an English room with English-language books and a Spanish room with Spanish-language books. Interestingly, books in the children's room are all in Spanish, while the young-adult room houses both Spanish and English books.

Fundraising

Besides buying books and paying salaries, the library offers many services to the community. It has a scholarship program, a rural libraries program, and free educational programs for young people, such as creative writing workshops, art and music classes, and computer classes. The rural libraries project is particularly impressive. The municipality of San Miguel, covering the city and a large swath of the surrounding countryside, is home to more than 172,000 people — many living in rural villages of fewer than 50 residents. With a mission of widespread literacy, the main library has set up rural libraries throughout this area.

How does the library pay for all this? With a plethora of creative income-generating programs. The most popular of these is the weekly House and Garden Tour. San Miguel's beautifully restored historic homes date as far back as the 1700s, and many are surrounded by lush formal gardens. Every Sunday at noon, a bus picks up that week's group and takes them on a tour of luxurious homes, including interiors, for 300 pesos or US\$20 per person.

Another fundraising venue is the library's Café Santa Ana, with its own open-air mini-courtyard, complete with waterfall. Menu selections include indigenous dishes from different regions of Mexico. For example, I enjoyed Caldo Tlalpeño, a chicken-and-vegetable soup of the Tlalpan region of Mexico City.

The library's Teatro Santa Ana shows two movies every afternoon and presents concerts, plays, and lectures. Another space, the Sala Quetzal, is home to the library's Latin American collection. It holds programs related to Mexican history and culture. The bookstore, of course, generates income as well. It sells books by local and regional authors, travel guides, stationery, souvenirs, and local crafts.

Every Thursday, shoppers crowd into the library's Bodega de Sorpresas (Warehouse of Surprises). There they find second-hand books, CDs, and DVDs, as well as second-hand clothing and furniture. The library also publishes *Atención San Miguel*, the town's only weekly bilingual newspaper. Its advertising revenue generates substantial income for the library. Besides these programs, the library holds gala fundraising events.



The Thursday sale at the Bodega de Sorpresas. Source: Biblioteca Pública de San Miguel de Allende <http://bibliotecasma.com/bodega-de-sorpresas/>

Cataloging

Being a cataloger, I was curious about the library's cataloging workflow, so I hunted down some catalogers to interview them. I learned that the Mexican librarians catalog Spanish-language books, and the expat librarians catalog the English-language books.

First I spoke with a librarian named Monica, a Spanish-language cataloger. Since we barely spoke each other's language, we could not speak at length or in depth. However, I did learn from Monica that they catalog using MARC 21. They also use the Dewey Decimal System and Library of Congress subject headings. Monica explained that the Spanish subject headings are the same as the English ones, only in translation, and that a search of one classification number yields both English- and Spanish-language headings.

Although the library has a [website](#), there is no online catalog. Monica said they had trouble setting up a catalog on their website, so they have a computer in the Spanish room for books in Spanish and a computer in the English room for books in English.

On another afternoon I spoke with Pat, one of the English-language catalogers. Pat is an expat from Canada who has lived in San Miguel for years. She had never worked in a library before, but showed up as a volunteer and learned to catalog on the job. (That made me wonder for a moment about the value of my debt-ridden stint as an MLIS student!)

Pat explained that their ILS is Absys, a system widely used in Spain and Latin American countries. With Absys they can import records from the Library of Congress, the University of San Francisco, and several other libraries. Then they plump up the subject headings if needed. For original cataloging, she creates the record in Absys. Their catalog records remain within their library; holdings information and original records are not uploaded to a larger database.

"If you want to know if the Biblioteca holds a certain book," said Pat, "email the librarian and ask. Then you can come in and check it out."

"What about interlibrary loan?"

That elicited a hearty laugh.

Volunteers

Much of the library staff consists of volunteers. Pat explained that all the Mexican library workers are paid, while all the expat workers are volunteers. Some of the volunteers' activities are maintaining the New Book Shelf, sorting donated books and magazines, and shelf reading. Volunteers also manage the weekly sale of books and second-hand clothes and furniture.

I asked if they have too many volunteers, or not enough. Pat said they usually have enough to handle business year round, although the supply fluctuates. They get an influx of volunteers during "the season," from November through April. These are the snowbirds who come down for the winter. Once the warmer weather arrives, the temporary population — and the surplus volunteers — fly off again.

My San Miguel getaway was indeed a time of serenity. I took long, aimless walks, strolled through botanical gardens, and relaxed on park benches. I stopped in to churches — a church is a stone's throw away from anywhere! — for meditation and peace. And I napped shamelessly. After my visits to the library, my head was filled with daydreamy thoughts. If I ran away to San Miguel for good — if I became an expat in San Miguel — I could keep my role as a cataloger. I'd just stroll over to the Biblioteca and present myself!

Submitted by

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