

Academic Libraries Using the LC Classification System

IF ONE WISHES to ascertain whether a particular college library uses the LC classification system, one may consult Table 3 in the Office of Education's *Library Statistics of Colleges & Universities, 1963-64; Institutional Data* (Government Printing Office, 1965). In the columns below, the names of all libraries using systems other than LC have been eliminated, thus concentrating the LC list in a conveniently consultable table. In addition, two items from Table 1 have been added: type of institution (grouping by institution has been substituted for the single alphabetical order under each state), and number of volumes held by the library. As in the Office of Education's report, the institutional classifications are designated as follows:

- U—University
- LA—Liberal arts college
- TEA—Teachers college
- TEC—Technological school
- THE—Theological school
- FA—School of fine arts
- OTH—Other professional school
- JC—Junior college
- TI—Technical institute
- SP—Semiprofessional school

This arrangement juxtaposes, then, as an example, all of the liberal arts colleges in California employing the LC system,

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with the sequence according to volume count.

College libraries using the LC Classification System arranged by state, by type of institution, and by number of volumes in thousands are listed below.

Alabama	
LA	88 Birmingham-Southern C
Alaska	
LA	21 Alaska Methodist U
LA	90 University of Alaska
Arkansas	
U	512 University of Arkansas
California	
U	63 Cal St Poly Kelló-Vohrs
U	180 U of Cal San Diego
U	233 U of Cal San Francisco
U	260 U of Cal Riverside
U	273 U of Cal Santa Barbara
U	323 U of Cal Davis
U	2,006 U of Cal Los Angeles
LA	24 Calif Lutheran C
LA	51 C of Notre Dame
LA	58 Scripps C
LA	65 Orange St C
LA	71 Mount St. Marys C
LA	76 C of the Holy Names
LA	92 Calif St C Hayward
LA	129 San Francisco C
	Women
LA	132 San Fernando Vly St C
LA	136 Calif Western U
LA	172 Long Beach St C
LA	193 Fresno St C
LA	203 LA St C App Arts & Sci
LA	287 San Diego St C
LA	363 Honnold Library

LA	39	Stonehill C	Montana		
LA	57	American International C	U	295	Montana St U
LA	60	Suffolk U	TEC	31	Montana Sch of Mines
LA	213	C of the Holy Cross	Nebraska		
LA	271	Williams C	LA	159	Municipal U of Omaha
LA	276	Brandeis U	New Jersey		
TEA	32	State C at Framingham	U	1,138	Rutgers The State U
TEC	24	New Bedford Inst Tech	LA	59	Inst for Advanced Study
TEC	896	Mass Inst of Tech	TEA	64	Newark St C
			TEA	65	Glassboro St C
			JC	10	Villa Walsh C
Michigan			New Mexico		
U	21	Oakland U Mich St U	U	181	New Mexico St U
U	1,051	Mich St U Agri & App Sci	New York		
LA	27	Sacred Heart Seminary	U	625	Fordham U
LA	28	Duns Scotus C	U	716	St U N.Y.—Syracuse U
LA	55	Siena Heights C	U	811	St U N.Y.—U of Rochester
LA	108	Kalamazoo C	U	1,254	New York U
LA	134	Andrews U	U	2,577	Cornell U
LA	135	Calvin C	LA	20	Alfred U Col of Ceramics
TEC	87	Mich C Mining & Tech	LA	23	Notre Dame of Staten Is
FA	13	Cranbrook Academy of Art	LA	27	Kings C
OTH	36	Detroit C of Law	LA	37	New Sch for Soc Research
JC	46	Delta C	LA	43	St. John Fisher C Inc.
JC	125	Chas Stewart Mott Library	LA	52	Le Moyne C
			LA	54	D Youville C
Minnesota			LA	101	Canisius C
LA	86	Hamline U	LA	109	St. Bernardine Siena C
LA	102	C of St. Thomas	LA	110	Manhattanvl C Sac Heart
LA	124	C of St. Catherine	LA	123	St U N.Y.—Suny Harpur C
LA	175	St. Olaf C	LA	167	St. Lawrence U
THE	34	Northwestern Luth Theo Sem	TEA	66	St U N.Y.—Suny C at Fredonia
THE	74	Luther Theological Sem	TEA	86	St U N.Y.—Suny C at Geneseo
FA	4	MacPhail C of Music	TEC	82	St U N.Y.—Suny C at Stony Brook
FA	19	Minneapolis Sch of Arts	THE	16	St. John Vianney Seminary
JC	14	Crosier Seminary	THE	22	St. Vladimir Orth Theo Sem
Missouri			OTH	31	Pace C
U	817	Wash U	OTH	37	New York Law Sch
U	1,050	U of Missouri			
LA	21	Covenant C			
LA	80	Central Methodist C			
TEA	104	SW Missouri St C			
THE	92	Concordia Sem			
OTH	21	Kirksville C Osteopathy			
JC	28	Sch of the Ozarks			

- OTH 65 Rockefeller Institute
 JC 8 St U N.Y.—Suffolk
 Cmty C
 JC 11 Monroe Community C
 JC 13 St U N.Y.—Villa Maria
 C of Buffalo
 JC 13 Nassau Cmty C
 TI 8 Academy of Aeronautics
- North Carolina
 U 297 U of N.C. St at Raleigh
 JC 15 Asheville Biltmore C
- North Dakota
 JC 55 Assumption C
- Ohio
 U 862 U of Cincinnati
 U 1,664 Ohio St U
 LA 38 C of Steubenville
 LA 126 Wittenberg U
 SP 1 Miami-Jacobs Jr C Bus
- Oklahoma
 TEA 64 East Central St C
 TEA 75 Southeastern St C
- Oregon
 U 460 Oregon St U
 LA 104 U of Portland
 LA 139 Portland St C
 LA 158 Reed C
 JC 10 Southern Oregon C
- Pennsylvania
 U 152 Villanova U
 U 633 Temple U
 U 1,137 U of Pittsburgh
 LA 32 Holy Family C
 LA 45 Penn Military C
 LA 52 Susquehanna U
 LA 58 St. Joseph C
 LA 65 Wilkes C
 LA 71 Rosemont C
 LA 121 Gettysburg C
 LA 135 St. Vincent C
 LA 217 Bucknell U
 LA 237 Haverford C
 LA 252 Swarthmore C
 THE 28 Mary Immaculate Sem
 THE 112 Pittsburgh Theol Sem
 FA 39 Curtis Inst of Music
- OTH 17 Womans Med C of Pa
 OTH 27 Hahnemann Med C &
 Hosp
 JC 20 Manor Jr C
- Rhode Island
 LA 1,077 Brown U
- South Carolina
 U 224 Clemson Agric C
- South Dakota
 U 150 S.D. St C Agri & Mech
 Arts
- Tennessee
 U 785 U of Tennessee
 JC 8 Martin C
- Texas
 U 308 U of Houston
 U 609 Texas Technological C
 LA 28 U of St. Thomas
 LA 37 U of Dallas
 LA 74 Austin C
 LA 103 Arlington St C
 LA 104 Abilene Christian C
 LA 480 Rice U
 THE 68 Austin Presb Theol Sem
 JC 9 Alvin Jr C
 JC 11 Texarkana C
- Vermont
 LA 55 St. Michaels C
- Virginia
 U 17 U of Va. Clinch Vly C
 U 1,159 U of Virginia
 LA 58 Mary Baldwin C
 LA 68 Emory & Henry C
 OTH 74 Medical C of Virginia
 JC 8 Southern Sem & Jr C
- Washington
 TEA 120 Western Washington
 St C
 JC 13 Olympic C
- West Virginia
 LA 50 Wheeling C
 TEA 50 Glenville St C
- Wisconsin
 U 223 U of Wisconsin
 Milwaukee

U 1,542 U of Wisconsin
 LA 30 Cardinal Stritch C
 LA 58 Carroll C
 TEA 128 Wis St C Oshkosh
 JC 5 Barron County Tchrs C
 Wyoming
 TEC 60 U.S. Coast Guard Academy
 TEC 190 U.S. Air Force Academy

Virgin Islands
 JC 5 C of the Virgin Is

If the libraries are arranged in their institutional groups by size of collection, the results are as shown in Table 1.

The range of volumes, as well as the median number, by institutional types, are shown in Table 2.

TABLE 1

NUMBER OF VOLUMES	U		LA		TEA		TEC		THE	
	No.	Per Cent								
25,000	1	1.8	8	7.8	1	6.7	4	40.0	5	31.3
25,001- 35,000			7	6.9	1	6.7			4	25.0
35,001- 50,000			12	11.8	3	20.0	1	10.0	2	12.5
50,001- 100,000	2	3.6	34	33.3	7	46.7	3	30.0	4	25.0
100,001- 200,000	5	9.1	29	28.4	3	20.0	1	10.0	1	6.3
200,001- 500,000	15	27.3	11	10.8						
500,001-1,000,000	17	30.9					1	10.0		
1,000,001	15	27.3	1	1.0						
Total, LC	55		102		15		10		16	
Total, all classifications & per cent LC	155	35.5	664	15.4	163	9.2	42	23.8	126	12.7

NUMBER OF VOLUMES	FA		OTH		JC		TI		SP	
	No.	Per Cent								
25,000	5	83.3	3	30.0	26	81.3	2	100.0	2	100.0
25,001- 35,000			1	10.0	3	9.4				
35,001- 50,000	1	16.7	3	30.0	1	3.1				
50,001- 100,000			3	30.0	1	3.1				
100,001- 200,000					1	3.1				
200,001- 500,000										
500,001-1,000,000										
1,000,001										
Total, LC	6		10		32		2		2	
Total, all classifications & per cent LC	24	25.0	58	17.2	416	7.7	11	18.2	17	11.8

Grand total, LC: 250

Grand total, all classifications: 1676*

Per cent LC: 14.9

NOTE: The size divisions are those used by Thelma Eaton in "Classification in College and University Libraries," *CRL*, XVI (April 1955), 168-76.

* The number of institutions listed in Table 3 is 1673. Libraries using the LC system are reported in all except the following states: Arizona, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Kentucky, Mississippi, Nevada, New Hampshire, & Utah.

TABLE 2

Type of Institution	High	Median	Low
University (U)	4,703,876	607,206	17,025
Liberal arts college (LA)	1,077,422	73,937	16,701
Teachers college (TEA)	128,060	64,493	11,199
Technological school (TEC)	896,513*	45,572	1,754
Theological school (THE)	112,856	33,735	14,509
School of fine arts (FA)	39,024	8,835	2,350
Other professional school (OTH)	74,835	36,560	9,276
Junior college (JC)	125,051	11,010	1,000
Technical institute (TI)	8,003	4,353	703
Semiprofessional school (SP)	2,800	2,229	1,658

* Of the ten LC libraries reported, this one is much higher in volume count than any of the others. The second highest number of volumes is 139,186.

SYSTEMS EVALUATION . . .

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relative efficiency of systems to expand searching in chain or array, or the degree to which systems permit self-verification, self-referral or self-correction, and so on. Possible criteria are limited only by the imagination of the experimentalist. Up to the present, very little has been done in experimental situations to alter only one variable at a time, so that much experimentation suffers from the presence of too many uncontrolled variables. The Cranfield project had so many variables going at once that one is seriously justified in asking whether the results mean anything at all. Publicly verifiable results have been remarkably rare in many recent experiments.²² Improvement in methodology, leading to repeatability, is

²² Compare Christine Montgomery and Don R. Swanson, "Machine-Like Indexing by People," *American Documentation*, XIII (October 1962), 359-66, with John O'Connor, "Correlation of Indexing Headings and Title Words in Three Medical Indexing Systems," *American Documentation*, XV (April 1964), 96-104; and A. Resnick and T. R. Savage, "The Consistency of Human Judgments of Relevance," *American Documentation*, XV (April 1964), 93-95, with A. DeLucia, "Index-Abstract Evaluation and Design," *American Documentation*, XV (April 1964), 121-25. The DeLucia article covers work based entirely on index terms, while the Resnick-Savage work included other types. Bornstein's comments on this kind of thing are particularly apt. Cf. Harry Bornstein, "A Paradigm . . ." *op cit.*, p. 254.

urgently needed in many areas of documentation.

What of the future? Currently systems evaluation by comparison testing is essentially a negative operation. Baldly comparing *what is fundamentally incomparable unless the criteria which form the basis for comparison are clearly stated* is neither objective nor valid.²³ Comparison testing does have merit and especially collateral values, provided its limitations are honestly accepted. Refinement in comparison testing technique is called for, particularly any technique which has to do with possible value judgments. It is said that all roads lead to Rome. Let us not judge them all by their approximation to an ideal Appian Way. When the roads are systems for the intellectual organization of information for storage and future retrieval, let us judge each one on its own merits, letting them complement each other, and aiming always to keep in mind the *variety* of needs of users, who are the ultimate authority in the success or failure of any system. ■ ■

²³ For an excellent discussion in some detail, see Alan Rees, "The Evaluation of Retrieval Systems," *Proceedings of the Second Annual Conference on Technical Information Center Administration*, Drexel Institute of Technology, Philadelphia, June 14-17, 1965. In press.