

Guide to the Dewey Decimal System

The subject classification system for non-fiction materials used at **Bethel College Wildcat Library** is the Dewey Decimal System. This system was devised by Melvil Dewey and was first published in 1876. It is one of the major systems used by libraries worldwide and is revised continuously.

All **non-fiction** items are identified by Dewey decimal numbering plus a series of letters and numbers. This is the call number. It is found in the catalogue record for each non-fiction item and on the spine label.

Subjects are divided into **10 main groups** or classes, and these in turn are further subdivided.

<p>000 General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 010 Bibliography 020 Library/Information Sciences 030 General encyclopedic works 040 Special topics 050 General serials & indexes 060 General organizations & museums 070 News media, journalism, publishing 080 General collections 090 Manuscripts & rare books 	<p>500 Natural Sciences and Mathematics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 510 Mathematics 520 Astronomy & allied sciences 530 Physics 540 Chemistry & allied sciences 550 Earth sciences 560 Paleontology, Paleozoology 570 Life sciences 580 Botanical sciences 590 Zoological sciences
<p>100 Philosophy and Psychology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 110 Metaphysics 120 Epistemology, causation, humankind 130 Paranormal phenomena 140 Specific philosophical schools 150 Psychology 160 Logic 170 Ethics (moral philosophy) 180 Ancient, medieval, Oriental philosophy 190 Modern Western philosophy 	<p>600 Technology and Applied Sciences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 610 Medical sciences, medicine 620 Engineering & allied operations 630 Agriculture 640 Home economics & family living 650 Management & auxiliary services 660 Chemical engineering 670 Manufacturing 680 Manufacturing for specific purposes 690 Buildings
<p>200 Religion (Christianity)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 210 Natural theology 220 Bible 230 Christian theology 240 Christian moral & devotional theology 250 Christian orders & local church 260 Christian social theology 270 Christian church history 280 Christian denominations & sects 290 Other & comparative religions 	<p>700 Arts and Recreation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 710 Civic & landscape art 720 Architecture 730 Plastic arts; Sculpture 740 Drawing & decorative arts 750 Paintings & drawings 760 Graphic arts; Printmaking & prints 770 Photography & photographs 780 Music 790 Recreational & performing arts
<p>300 Social Sciences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 310 General statistics 320 Political science 330 Economics 340 Law 350 Public administration 360 Social services; association 370 Education 380 Commerce, communications, transport 390 Customs, etiquette, folklore 	<p>800 Literature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 810 American literature in English 820 English & Old English literatures 830 Literatures of Germanic languages 840 Literatures of Romance languages 850 Italian, Romanian, Rhaeto-Romanic lit. 860 Spanish & Portuguese literatures 870 Italic literatures, Latin 880 Hellenic literatures, Classical Greek 890 Literatures of other languages
<p>400 Language</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 410 Linguistics 420 English and Old English 430 Germanic languages – German 440 Romance languages – French 450 Italian, Romanian, Rhaeto-Romanic 460 Spanish & Portuguese languages 470 Italic languages – Latin 480 Hellenic languages – Greek 490 Other languages 	<p>900 Geography, History, Travel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 910 Geography & travel 920 Biography, genealogy, insignia 930 History of the ancient world 940 General history of Europe 950 General history of Asia/Far East 960 General history of Africa 970 General history of North America 980 General history of South America 990 General history of other areas