Subdivide and Conquer with LC Subdivisions!

Magic Search
Getting the Best Results from Your Catalog and Beyond

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BEST ALL-AROUND

--Case studies
Unearth a gold mine of real-life examples for just about any topic. Perfect for any social scientist and almost always fascinating reading.

- Hello, Charlie: Letters from a serial killer
- Love in the second act: True stories of romance, midlife and beyond
- Reviving Ophelia: Saving the selves of adolescent girls
- The presidential character: Predicting performance in the White House

Or, for the long-view version of case studies, use --Longitudinal studies, which produces research gems for social scientists.

- Risk and resilience: Adolescent mothers and their children grow up
- How college affects students: A third decade of research

--Social life and customs
This is the go-to subdivision for anthropologists, sociologists, and anyone else studying a country or group of people. Ideal for questions like, What is life like in Yemen? What do they do for fun in Finland? and What is an ordinary day like for aboriginal Australians?

- Eating, drinking, and visiting in the South
- Everyday life in Central Asia: Past and present
- Teenage wasteland: Suburbia’s dead end kids

--Psychological aspects
How can love, video games, dance, food, or the color blue affect a person’s mental well-being? Use --Psychological aspects to analyze the influence of everyday things on “the mental condition or personality of individuals”
Useful For the Social Sciences

This overachiever will produce a multitude of results, from self-help titles (Why him? why her? Finding true love by understanding your personality type) to scholarly works (Handbook of bereavement research and practice).

---Psychology
It won’t empower you to read minds, but --Psychology is great for examining the “psychological traits, personality, character, etc.” of individuals (e.g., Fidel Castro) and groups of people (e.g., Mohave Indians, pet owners) (Library of Congress 2008a, H1095).

---Sex differences
Is the battle of the sexes still raging? Are men and women really from different planets? Find out by pairing --Sex differences with a topic, language, or—um—body part.

Sex and the brain: A reader
The myth of Mars and Venus
Why men never remember and women never forget

---Age factors
Everyday cognition in adulthood and late life
Intellectual development in adulthood

---Cross-cultural studies
Explore how body language, food habits, social policy, and so on, differ between “two or more cultures or societies” (Library of Congress 2008a, H1510).

Families in a global context
Intimacies: Love and sex across cultures
A beautiful game: International perspectives on women’s football

---Public opinion
---Attitudes

--Public opinion tells you what the general public thinks about a certain issue (e.g., deviant behavior, firearms, Social Security) or group (e.g., Choctaw Indians, teachers). Many catalog records will also specify where that public is located (e.g., Africa, Bangladesh, North Carolina).

--Attitudes refers to what a specific group (e.g., children of divorced parents, homeowners, social workers, victims of crimes) thinks about anything.
--Economic aspects
--Economic conditions
Both subdivisions explore the economic situation. --Economic aspects is attached to topics (e.g., child care, drug abuse, free trade, gambling, intellectual property, mafia, nationalism, racism, zoning, and on and on), while --Economic conditions goes with places and groups of people. Can’t remember which is which? Never fear, just remember that “economic” is singular, and economize with this:

**MAGIC SEARCH:** [research interest] and (economic conditions or economic aspects)

**PSYCHOLOGY**

--Mental health
Reveals the “mental health or mental illness” of a specific group or individual and includes “accounts of specific disorders” (Library of Congress 2008a, H1890).

*The aftermath: Living with the Holocaust*
*When the bubble bursts: Clinical perspectives on midlife issues*

--Mental health services
Locates items “discussing organized services providing mental health care to [a] group” (Library of Congress 2008a, H1890).

**BONUS FEATURE:** Many titles offer practical advice for counselors, psychologists, and other mental health professionals.

*Treating adult and juvenile offenders with special needs*
*Special populations in college counseling: A handbook for mental health professionals*

Want to know everything about the personality, psychological characteristics, and mental health of an individual or group?

**MAGIC SEARCH:** [person or group] and (mental health or psychology)

**THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS**

--Politics and government
The leader in the world of political science subdivisions, --Politics and government will guide you to “the history of political events [of a place] and/or the history, description, or critical analysis of governmental and political
institutions, parties, organizations, etc.” as well as to an ethnic group’s “self-government” (Library of Congress 2008a, H1942).

*The Pol Pot regime: Race, power, and genocide in Cambodia under the Khmer Rouge, 1975-79*

*Leftovers: Tales of the Latin American left*

*Dreams and shadows: The future of the Middle East*

--Political activity
Find out how individuals and groups (e.g., Baptists, celebrities, economists, labor unions, Muslims) participate in politics.

⚠️ **NOTE:** Use **--Political and social views** for individuals on their “general” views on politics and social issues (Library of Congress 2008a, H1110).

--Citizen participation
In addition to **--Political activity**, the Library of Congress gives us this one “for works on the participation of citizens in carrying out an activity” (Library of Congress 2008a, H1095). This time it is the activity upon which the Library of Congress places emphasis.

🌐 **BONUS FEATURE:** Find titles like *Citizen lobbyists: Local efforts to influence public policy*. Also, **--Citizen participation** includes resources that can tell you how to be a good citizen (*50 ways to save the earth*).

To find a range of resources on any kind of political participation or activism, try this:

🔍 **MAGIC SEARCH:** [activity/person/group] and (political activity or citizen participation)

--Political aspects
The “political dimensions or implications of nonpolitical topics” (Library of Congress 2008a, H1095). In an age where everything seems to be political, what is a nonpolitical topic? Try calypso music!

*The political calypso: True opposition in Trinidad and Tobago, 1962-1987*

*Beaches, ruins, resorts: The politics of tourism in the Arab world*

*The political economy of college sports*

--Foreign relations

--Relations

--- **Foreign relations.** Describes official “diplomatic relations between . . . countries [or regions] and other sovereign states” (Library of Congress 2008a, H1629).
The next great clash: China and Russia vs. the United States
Nuclear matters in North Korea: Building a multilateral response for future stability in Northeast
The newer Caribbean: Decolonization, democracy, and development

--Relations. Now that you know the diplomatic stance, how are the places really getting along? --Relations reports the nondiplomatic relationships between specific places.

Cuba in the American imagination
The Soviet impact in Africa

NOTE: If the number of related places is three or more, the subdivision becomes --Relations--Foreign countries, with no mention of the specific places (Library of Congress 2008a).

Want both diplomatic and nondiplomatic relations?

MAGIC SEARCH: [places] and relations

If the results are too numerous or irrelevant, switch to the more conservative keyword-in-subject search.

--Foreign countries
This subdivision tells about natives of one country living in other countries. Imagine the word in added, as in “in foreign countries,” and it will make more sense.

Emigrant nation: The making of Italy abroad (Italians in foreign countries)
Cuba: Idea of a nation displaced (Cubans in foreign countries)

THE SOCIAL SUBDIVISIONS

--Social aspects
--Social conditions
--Sociological aspects
No, they don’t throw a lot of parties, but these subdivisions do get to the heart of social issues. --Social aspects is paired with things, --Social conditions with places and groups of people, and --Sociological aspects with institutions.

--Social aspects. Points you to the “effect of [an] item, activity, discipline, etc., and society on each other” (Library of Congress 2008a, H1095).

Drink: A cultural history of alcohol
The cult of thinness
The veil: Women writers on its history, lore, and politics
--Social conditions. “For works discussing the social history or sociology of a place, ethnic group, or class of persons” (Library of Congress 2008a, H2055).

Trapped in poverty: Chronic poor in remote tribal areas
There’s no José here: Following the hidden lives of Mexican immigrants

--Sociological aspects. Used, according to the Cataloger’s Desktop (Library of Congress 2008a, H1095), with “types of institutions for works discussing the impact of the inherent nature of the institution.” The interpretation of exactly what qualifies as an institution varies widely. For instance, in some books, marriage is treated as an institution, and thus --Sociological aspects is applied. But sometimes marriage is just a plain old subject; thus, --Social aspects applies.

Want to just search and get on with your life?

MAGIC SEARCH: [research interest] and (Social or sociological) and (aspects or conditions)

LAW

--Law and legislation
--Legal status, laws, etc.

Get briefed on law topics with these two subdivisions. Both are great for people who are intimidated by the legalese used in statutes and codes (Kornegay, Buchanan, and Morgan 2005).

--Law and legislation. Discloses the legal spin on every imaginable topic.

On same-sex marriage, civil unions, and the rule of law
Make any divorce better! Specific steps to make things smoother, faster, less painful and save you a lot of money
Computer and Internet use on campus: A legal guide to issues of intellectual property, free speech, and privacy

--Legal status, laws, etc. Investigates legal issues related to people.

Rights of the disabled
Indian feminisms: Law, patriarchies and violence in India
Dealing with problem employees: A legal guide

NOTE: If you are devotee of subdivisions such as --Psychological aspects or --Social conditions, you might expect that when it comes to law topics, the Library of Congress would have created “Legal aspects” for topics and “Legal conditions” for people. But instead the Library of Congress chose
--Law and legislation and --Legal status, laws, etc., respectively. Your first response might be “I object!” but we are overruled and must trust the judgment of the Library of Congress.

--Cases
Searching for court cases on a specific issue can be challenging. Fortunately, --Cases applies to any legal topic and will bring us to compilations of cases relevant to a theme or subject area.

I dissent: Great opposing opinions in landmark Supreme Court cases
Ethics and criminal justice: An introduction
Equal play: Title IX and social change

--Legal research
A boon for all legal researchers, law students, and librarians, this how-to subdivision brings materials that will help us successfully use resources like “court reports, codes, digests, citators, etc., in determining the status of statutory, regulatory, or case law on a topic” (Library of Congress 2008a, H1710).

The legal research dictionary: From advance sheets to pocket parts
Legal information: What it is and where to find it

--Trials, litigation, etc.
Bite into the juicy details of trials and related proceedings. --Trials, litigation, etc. is applied to “individual persons, families, corporate bodies, or jurisdictions for the proceedings of civil or criminal actions to which they are parties, or for works about such proceedings” (Library of Congress 2008a, H2228).

Bush v. Gore
The state vs. Nelson Mandela
The Microsoft case

--Corrupt practices
Want to chase down an organization (e.g., Enron) or industry (e.g., meat industry) or activity (e.g., elections) in need of legal defense? Try --Corrupt practices!

The dark side of the diamond: Gambling, violence, drugs and alcoholism in the national pastime
Deadly deception: General Electric, nuclear weapons and our environment
A review of the evils that have prevailed in the linen manufacture of Ireland (from 1762!)
Moral and ethical aspects
Applicable to any research topic. It's legal, but is it ethical?

Moral constraints on war: Principles and cases
Protecting participants and facilitating social and behavioral sciences research

TESTS AND MEASURES

Because of protocols controlling the administration of tests, copies of actual tests can be difficult to obtain through a library, but these subdivisions do lead you to general information, methodology, and test results.

Testing
“For works on the construction, application, and results of testing pertaining to . . . topics” (e.g., aggressiveness, memory, vocational interests) (Library of Congress 2008a, H1095).

Ability testing
“For works on tests and testing of native aptitude or acquired proficiency in a particular topic” (e.g., bowling, critical thinking, reading) (Library of Congress 2008a, H2186).

Psychological testing
Locates “works on methods and results of conducting psychological tests of” groups of people (e.g., employees, prisoners, teenagers) (Library of Congress 2008a, H2186).

Intelligence testing
“For works on methods and results of conducting intelligence tests” on groups of people (Library of Congress 2008a, H2186). Children appear most commonly in search results, which is not surprising. When was the last time you took an intelligence test? If you saw this Magic Search coming, give yourself a score of 100.

MAGIC SEARCH: [group or topic] and testing

Methodology
The perfect how-to for any social scientist, this hard worker is matched with “disciplines and other topical headings for works on both the theory and practice of procedures to be followed” (Library of Congress 2008a, H1095).

Political science research methods
Analyzing social settings: A guide to qualitative observation and analysis
Clinical anthropology: An application of anthropological concepts within clinical settings

--Statistical methods
For “discussions of the methods of solving problems . . . through the use of statistics” (Library of Congress 2007, SD-87). Find sources for your specific subject area or research interest.

Handbook of statistical modeling for the social and behavioral sciences
Sampling of populations: Methods and applications
How to collect and analyze data: A manual for sheriffs and jail administrators

--Statistics
Your best bet for finding “statistical data” or “works discussing statistical data” about topics (e.g., crime, early childhood), places (e.g., Chicago, France), and groups (e.g., gangs, referees) (Library of Congress 2008a, H2095).

Hispanic Americans: A statistical sourcebook
Cities ranked and rated: More than 400 metropolitan areas evaluated in the U.S. and Canada
National estimates of marriage dissolution and survivorship

Consider also --Statistical services for finding “general works describing services that collect numerical data” for different topics (but only if you are into that sort of thing) (Library of Congress 2008a, H2095).
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zoology. See science
Magic Search presents the 467 best-performing LCSH subdivisions that speak to the kinds of research questions librarians handle every day. The quick-reference format, along with a handy index, makes this a useful tool to keep close at hand. In addition, this book provides:

- A thematic arrangement of LC subdivisions that yield the most successful search terms
- Chapters on discipline-specific subdivisions to hone effective search terms
- Precise, professional vocabulary useful in searches and explained in easy-to-understand language

Grasping the importance and having command of LC subdivisions now appearing in unexpected places beyond the library catalog is key in this rapidly evolving, twenty-first-century information environment. No other work explores the LCSH subdivisions in such detail or with such commitment, making this book vital to every reference desk.