



Dewey Decimal Classification NEWS



January 2015 Edition American Library Association Midwinter Meeting, Chicago

Dewey Breakfast at ALA

The Dewey Breakfast/Update will be held on Saturday, 31 January, 7:00–8:30 am, at McCormick Place West, Room 185D. The program will feature presentations on the results of the Dewey print users survey, machine-generation of Dewey numbers at the German National Library (including strategies for documenting their provenance in the metadata), and an open conversation about the value of Dewey in public libraries. The ALCTS Public Libraries Technical Services Interest Group will meet in the same room 8:30–10:00 am directly following the Dewey Update Breakfast.

Dewey at the OCLC Booth 1818

Stop by OCLC Booth 1818 to see WebDewey 2.0. The print editions of DDC 23, Abridged Edition 15 and 200 Religion Class are available at the Combined Book Exhibit Booth 4219.

WebDewey

We continue our work on adding new features to WebDewey. The next one in the pipeline is a Notification Feature. This feature will provide users with a central place to get notification about updates to Dewey that are of interest to them, e.g., “Which classes in the 790s have changed in the last three months?” It will also allow users to drill deeper into certain types of updates and also see them in context of specific editorial projects. When this is deployed later this year, WebDewey users will also be able to generate up-to-date versions of the Relocations and Discontinuations tables known from the print edition. Join us for the Dewey Update Breakfast to let us know what else you would like to see in future WebDewey updates.

Dewey Print Survey

For the last several editions, sales of print versions of the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) system have been decreasing in favor of WebDewey. For this reason and others we have decided that DDC 23 and Abridged Edition 15 in English are the last print editions of the classification as we have known them for so many years and generations. WebDewey in English will be the standard for the classification. We do plan to create a continually updated print product that will be useful in institutions with small general collections. To understand the classification needs of those institutions, OCLC conducted a Web-based survey to explore use and perceptions of Dewey Services in an effort to find alternative ways to offer the DDC besides the current Web version and the multivolume print edition. We are in the process of analyzing the results to determine what form a Dewey print tool might take.

Data Provenance

A few years ago, a joint proposal by Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, Library of Congress, and OCLC helped create a new MARC field (883 Machine-generated Metadata Provenance), which, among other things, supports the documentation of data provenance of machine-generated DDC data in the 082 field. While the new field was implemented in WorldCat in October 2013, it is now included in DNB data deliveries starting in mid-January to document sources of semi-automatically acquired Dewey numbers. Also, LC plans to implement the field for the use with AutoDewey.

Dewey Linked Data

Dewey.info, an experimental space for linked DDC data, contains all assignable numbers and captions from DDC 23 (plus geographic areas from Table 2) and is continuously updated. In April 2014, we substantially extended the linked data available by adding our first translation of a full edition as the current German translation of DDC 23 moved from DNB to its new home at dewey.info. (The data is still coded as “e22” until the translation is fully updated to DDC 23, which will happen in 2015.) Also available are the top three levels of the DDC in 12 languages, plus assignable numbers accompanied by captions from the English, Italian and Vietnamese DDC Abridged Edition 14 data sets. The linked data included in WorldCat.org pages as Schema.org descriptive mark-up contains a growing number of links to full Dewey numbers in dewey.info.

European DDC Users’ Group

The EDUG Meeting and Symposium 2015 will take place in Naples, Italy, from 15 to 17 April 2014. EDUG will sponsor a full-day international symposium on 17 April. The first two days will be devoted to a workshop on mapping, in cooperation with the University of Oslo, followed by a general business meeting. Watch for further information (and for where to register if you plan to attend) on 025.431: The Dewey Blog (<http://ddc.typepad.com>).

International Dewey Users Meeting at IFLA

Twenty-seven librarians from 12 countries attended the International Dewey Users Meeting held in conjunction with the World Library and Information Conference (IFLA) in Lyon, France, on 19 August 2014.

The agenda included updates on Cookbook Finder and Fiction Finder, works-based applications that provide access to thousands of works about food and fiction, respectively (derived in part from Dewey data in Classify); a conversation about new applications enabled by a graph-based Dewey; and guest presentations by two of our translation partners.

Translations

Most of the Dewey translations highlighted below are using translation-support software developed by Pansoft. The Pansoft software imports and exports DDC data using the same MARCXML format used to export the English-language DDC data and to represent DDC data in WebDewey 2.0. Pansoft also developed WebDewey 2.0 under an agreement with OCLC.

Arabic: A new Arabic translation of the full DDC is under way at Bibliotheca Alexandrina and is expected to be published in 2015.

French: A full French translation of DDC 23 is underway using Pansoft and is expected to be published in 2015.

German: DNB expects to introduce the German translation of DDC 23 in 2015. An updated translation of DDC Sachgruppen is also under development. The translation of the full edition became available as a work in progress in April 2014 on dewey.info.

Indonesian: Work continues at the National Library of Indonesia on the Indonesian translation of Abridged Edition 15.

Italian: The Italian translation of Dewey Decimal Classification has been published by AIB (Associazione Italiana Biblioteche) and for the first time in electronic form, in WebDewey based on DDC 23 in 2014.

Norwegian: Work continues at the National Library of Norway on a translation of DDC 23 in a Web-only version and is scheduled to be completed in 2015.

Vietnamese: The Vietnamese translation of DDC 23 was completed in 2013. Since then, the National Library of Vietnam has organized a training program, which was kicked off by a conference in October 2014 on application of the Dewey Decimal Classification in Vietnamese libraries.

Dewey Section at the Library of Congress

Effective October 1, 2014, Caroline Saccucci, Program Manager of the Library of Congress Dewey Section, began a split assignment as the Acting Program Manager of the Cataloging in Publication (CIP) Section. She continued a split assignment as supervisor of record for the Literature Section, with the support of an acting team lead from

among the Literature Section staff. The Literature Section Head position will be posted and filled in 2015. Also, in 2015 Library of Congress managers will review the feasibility of merging the Dewey and CIP Sections with an eye toward leveraging the strength of both programs to support each other. The missions and identities of both the Dewey and CIP Programs will be retained.

Dr. Julianne Beall continued to volunteer on a part-time basis in the Dewey Program. She attended the IFLA World Library and Information Congress 2014 in Lyon, France, 16–21 August. At the International Dewey Users Group meeting, she gave a presentation (prepared with Diane Vizine-Goetz, Senior Research Scientist, OCLC Research) entitled “Fiction Finder, Cookbook Finder, and Dewey.” With Michael Panzer (Editor in Chief, DDC), she met with representatives of translation teams for Arabic, French, Italian, Norwegian and Swedish translations of DDC. She also met with the team from the National Library of Vietnam, which had finished translating DDC 23 and is doing much training in application of DDC.

Caroline Saccucci provided training sessions on AutoDewey to the staff of three sections within the Germanic and Slavic Division: Scandinavia, Baltic and Central Germanic Section, Russia Section and Germany Section. Ms. Saccucci and Dr. Beall discussed the feasibility of using AutoDewey to create Abridged Dewey numbers for works on history, not to include biography, using Denmark as a test case because it uses only two time periods and does not have a breakdown by region in Abridged Dewey. If this works, it could apply to other countries as well and would present a use for AutoDewey beyond literature.

In FY2014, the Dewey Section staff and others added DDC to 86,630 bibliographic records; the Dewey Section classifiers added LC Classification stems to 1,910 bibliographic records cataloged by the National Library of Medicine as part of the CIP Program. For the period October–December 2014, the total classified was 24,972. During the same time period, the Dewey Section assigned the LC Classification stem to 418 bibliographic records.

Dewey Online Training Modules

Beginning in August 2014, the Dewey Blog has given detailed examples of how to use the WebDewey Number building Tool, as a supplement to the WebDewey part of the Dewey Online Training Modules; see, for example:

<http://ddc.typepad.com/025431/2014/12/webdewey-number-building-tool-standard-subdivisions-that-have-add-tables.html>.

Group Subscriptions for Dewey Services

If your library is part of a consortium and wishes to subscribe to WebDewey 2.0, and/or receive a group discount on DDC 23 or Abridged Edition 15, please contact Libbie Crawford at libbie_crawford@oclc.org or 1-800-848-5878 ext. 6346 to explore group options.

Dewey Editorial Office

Please direct questions, comment, or requests for information on the Dewey Decimal Classification to dewey@loc.gov, or:

Dewey Editorial Office
Library of Congress
Dewey Program
101 Independence Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20540-4292
Fax: 1-202-707-0279

(Note: Mail service may be slow to LC due to heightened security precautions.)

Dewey by the Numbers

Our Dewey “scorecard” gives users a quick overview of the Dewey database as of 31 December 2014:

	NOW IN DDC 23	NEW IN DDC 23	NEW IN 2014
Explicit assignable numbers in schedules <i>(including built numbers)</i>	40,159	3,155	90
Facets <i>(building blocks from Tables 1–6 and internal add tables, added to show languages, geographic areas, ethnic/national groups, genres, etc.)</i>	12,195	673	69
Relative Index terms	102,517	5,651	370
LCSH mappings	26,792	12,057	56
BISAC mappings	3,228	432	0
MeSH mappings	379	238	0
Sears mappings	6,902	6,902	0

Watch for quarterly updates of these numbers on 025.431: The Dewey Blog <http://ddc.typepad.com>.

Useful Dewey Links

DDC 23	www.oclc.org/en-US/dewey/versions/print.html
WebDewey 2.0	http://dewey.org/webdewey
Abridged Edition 15	www.oclc.org/en-US/dewey/versions/abridged.html
200 Religion Class	www.oclc.org/en-US/dewey/versions/religion.html
dewey.info	http://dewey.info
Dewey webinars & presentations	www.oclc.org/en-US/dewey/news/conferences.html
025.431: The Dewey Blog	http://ddc.typepad.com
Dewey training courses	www.oclc.org/dewey/resources/teachingsite/courses.en.html
Discussion papers	www.oclc.org/dewey/discussion.en.html
Updates	www.oclc.org/en-US/dewey/updates/ddc23.html
Classify	http://classify.oclc.org/classify2/
Questions?	dewey@loc.gov (Dewey Editorial Office) dewey@oclc.org (licensing, group purchases, LIS program)

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