

BACKGROUND: *Moving image works are defined as those created by recording moving visual images, with or without sound. Individual moving image works are cataloged in the Motion Picture/Broadcasting/Recorded Sound Division (M/B/RS) of the Library of Congress. This instruction sheet provides special guidelines for the assignment of genre/form headings to works cataloged by M/B/RS. For guidelines on assigning subject headings to bring out the content of individual moving image works, consult H 2230.*

*Note: This instruction sheet and the genre/form headings use the term **films** to refer to works recorded on motion picture film that are generally first released theatrically. The term **videos** is used for works originally recorded on video and not released theatrically. The phrase **television programs** refers to works originally broadcast on television. Any moving image may later be acquired in a format other than the original. Genre/form headings are assigned based on the original format of the work.*

1. Assignment of genre/form headings.

a. General rule. Assign genre/form headings to either fiction or non-fiction works. Exceptionally and because of the nature of the headings, use **Documentary films**, **Instructional films**, and **Documentary television programs**, and their narrower terms only for non-fiction works. [COMMENT: The list is a work in progress.]

b. Limiting to fiction or non-fiction. For cases in which a genre/form heading is not limited to either fiction or non-fiction works, also assign one of the following additional headings to distinguish between fiction and non-fiction treatments of a subject:

- Fiction films
- Nonfiction films
- Fiction television programs
- Nonfiction television programs
- Fiction videos
- Nonfiction videos

1. *Assignment of genre/form headings.*

b. Limiting to fiction or non-fiction. (Continued)

Examples:

Title: Till the clouds roll by.

655 #0 \$a Biographical films.

655 #0 \$a Fiction films.

Title: Crime & punishment.

655 #0 \$a Legal television programs.

655 #0 \$a Nonfiction television programs.

Title: Harlan County, U.S.A.

655 #0 \$a Documentary films.

*[Do not assign **Nonfiction films** because **Documentary films** is a narrower term of **Nonfiction films**.]*

c. Short films or Feature films. Additionally, for motion pictures assign either **Short films** or **Feature films** as appropriate. Short films are defined as those running less than 40 minutes, and feature films are full-length films running 40 minutes or longer.

d. Multiple genres. Assign as many genre/form headings as necessary to bring out important forms and genres to which the work belongs. *Example:*

Title: Oklahoma!

655 #0 \$a Western films.

655 #0 \$a Musical films.

655 #0 \$a Film adaptations.

655 #0 \$a Romance films.

655 #0 \$a Fiction films.

655 #0 \$a Feature films.

1. *Assignment of genre/form headings. (Continued)*

e. Moving image works for people with disabilities.

(1) *Hearing impaired.* Assign either **Films for the hearing impaired**, **Television programs for the hearing impaired**, or **Video recordings for the hearing impaired** to all moving-image works produced with captions or sign language for viewing by the hearing impaired.

Do not assign this heading to works in one language with subtitles in another language if the subtitles are intended only as a translation, and not specifically as an aid for the hearing impaired.

(2) *Visually impaired.* Assign either **Films for people with visual disabilities**, **Television programs for people with visual disabilities**, or **Video recordings for people with visual disabilities** to all moving-image works with additional audio description provided for people with visual disabilities.

2. *Construction of headings.*

a. General rule. Editorially establish all genre/form headings. For general guidance on the creation of subject authority records, see H 200.

b. Form of heading.

(1) *Use of terms already in LCSH.* Before proposing a new genre/form heading, search LCSH to determine whether there is a topical subject heading that is appropriate for use as a genre/form heading. If there is, propose that the new genre/form heading be identical to the topical heading. *Example:* The work in hand is a recording of a television interview. The topical term **Interviews** exists in LCSH and can be proposed for use as a genre/form heading. The additional genre/form heading **Nonfiction television programs** may be added to the bibliographic record bring out the format of the work.

2. *Construction of headings.**b. Form of heading. (Continued)*

(2) **Construction of new headings.** Create separate headings for film, television, and video genres and forms. Use the formulas [. . .] **films**, [. . .] **television programs**, and [. . .] **videos** wherever possible. Headings of the type **Film** [. . .], **Television** [. . .], or **Video** [. . .] may also be proposed. If neither of the above two options is practical (e.g., due to common usage or literary warrant), then headings may be constructed by using the qualifiers (**Motion pictures**), (**Television programs**), or (**Video recordings**). *Examples:*

```
155 ## $a Horror films
155 ## $a Film adaptations
155 ## $a Rushes (Motion pictures)
155 ## $a Horror television programs
155 ## $a Television specials
155 ## $a Variety shows (Television programs)
```

c. References. Construct references according to the following guidelines, which follow general principles for references presented in H 370.

(1) **Used for references.** Add 455 fields for variant terminology and/or different forms of heading.

(2) **Broader term references.** Judiciously add broader term references for explicit class/class member relationships. “Orphan” headings are possible when proposing new genre/form headings. *Examples:*

```
155 ## $a Romantic comedy films
555 ## $w g $a Comedy films

155 ## $a Industrial films
555 ## $w g $a Documentary films
```

[*but* 155 ## \$a Buddy films]

2. Construction of headings.

c. References. (Continued)

(3) **Related term references.** Link through related term references those terms with meanings that overlap to some extent, or terms that are used somewhat interchangeably.

155 ## \$a Disaster films

555 ## \$a Survival films

155 ## \$a Survival films

555 ## \$a Disaster films

d. Scope notes. Add a scope note to define the meaning of the genre/form heading if necessary. Consult H 400 for guidance.

155 ## \$a Social guidance films

680 ## \$i Here are entered films designed to guide people, usually teenagers, in proper behavior, dating, etiquette, and other social interaction.

3. MARC 21 content designation and input conventions. Genre/form headings are recorded in field 155 in the authority format, with both indicators blank. In the bibliographic format they are recorded in field 655 with a second indicator of **0** (zero).