The following principles of classification generally apply when classifying works according to the Library of Congress classification system:

1. Subject.   Class works according to their subject matter.

2. Topic vs. form.   Unless instructions to the contrary are printed in the schedules, class a work by its specific subject, not by its form under a broader topic.   Within a given topical area, class by subject, ignoring form unless form captions have been established under the subject.   If no number for the specific form of the work being cataloged has been established in the schedules under the subject, see F 195, sec. 4.

3. Topic vs. place.   Within a given topical area, if a choice must be made between classing by specific subject and classing by place, prefer classification by the subject, unless instructions to the contrary exist or unless precedent, as reflected in the shelflist, clearly indicates otherwise. If no clear precedent exists, record any decision to class by place rather than by subject by adding notes of the following type to the schedule:

> *Under the topical caption:*
>
> > Class works limited to a specific geographic area in [...]
>
> *Under the caption "By region or country":*
>
> > Including specific topics

4. Specificity.   Use the most specific number available.   Use a broader number only if no specific number is available and it is not feasible to establish one.

5. Multi-topic works.   Where several subjects are discussed in a work, choose the classification number according to the most appropriate of the following principles:

- Class according to instructions printed in the schedules.

- Class according to dominant subject.

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5. Multi-topic works.   *(Continued)*

- If no subject is dominant, class under the first one mentioned in the work being cataloged.

- Class with a broader subject, if the work deals with several subjects that, taken together, constitute a major part of a larger subject.

6. Choosing among several appropriate class numbers.   In problematic cases where several numbers appear satisfactory, class according to the intent of the author or where it appears that the work would be most usefully located.

7. Influence of one subject on another.   Unless instructions in the schedules or past practice dictate otherwise, class works on the influence of one subject on another with the subject influenced.

8. Relationship of class number with subject headings.   For the relationship between the order of subject headings and the class number, see H 80.