

New work in *Controlled Vocabulary for Rare Materials Cataloging*

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*Fascinating Facets:
Recent Developments in Genre and Form Vocabularies
IFLA Subject Analysis and Access (SAA) Section
May 19, 2022*

Presentation overview

- Prejudicial Materials Working Group
 - ...a subgroup of the Controlled Vocabularies Editorial Group (CVEG)
of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (RBMS)
of the Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL),
a Division of the American Library Association (ALA)
- History of the “Prejudicial works” terminology
- New “Prejudicial works” terminology
- Ethical concerns in vocabulary building
- Neutrality (or not) in cataloging

Prejudicial Materials Working Group

Purpose:

1. Review, revise, and generate new terminology useful for indexing works that are prejudicial in nature, or that are the byproduct of prejudicial or outright hateful systems and ideologies
2. Critically review and revise the structure of this area of the vocabulary

Controlled Vocabulary for Rare Materials Cataloging (CVRMC)

- A genre/form vocabulary for special collections
- Hosted at id.loc.gov by the Library of Congress (its Linked Data Service)

LIBRARY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Everything Search Loc.gov

The Library of Congress > Linked Data Service > RBMS Thesauri

Search RBMS Thesauri GO

Search In RBMS Thesauri

Controlled Vocabulary for Rare Materials Cataloging

Welcome to the Controlled Vocabulary for Rare Materials Cataloging. This scheme is developed and maintained by the Controlled Vocabularies Editorial Group of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (ACRL/ALA). These thesauri provide standardized vocabulary for retrieving special collections materials by form, genre, or by various physical characteristics that are typically of interest to researchers and special collections librarians and for relating materials to individuals or corporate bodies. For information about the scope, application, and historical development of a thesaurus, please consult the digitized introductions to each text. All terms from the original print versions, as well as additions and changes since publication, are integrated into the databases below. We appreciate your patience as we improve the design and functionality of these databases, and welcome your comments. Proposal form for terms: https://rbms.info/vocabularies/form-thesaurus_term_proposal.shtml Contact email: vocabularies@rbms.info

version 2.0

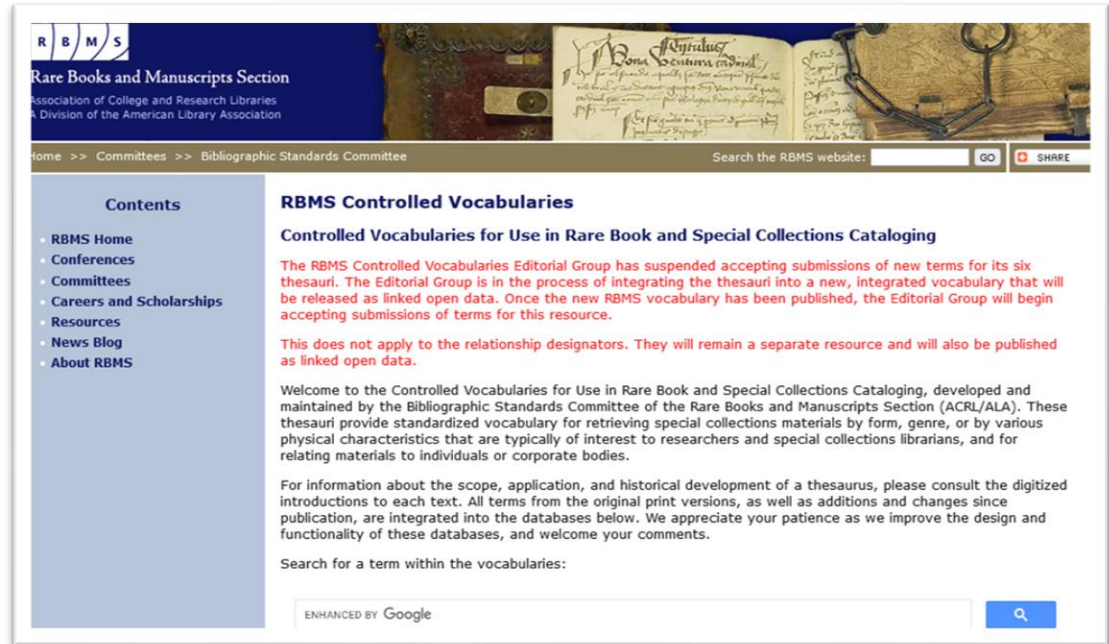
This is a beta version of this vocabulary, not to be used in cataloging.

URI(s)
- <http://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/rbmscv>

BETA

RBMS Controlled Vocabularies (begun in 1983)

- Separate thesauri
 1. Binding Terms
 2. Genre Terms
 3. Paper Terms
 4. Printing & Publishing Evidence
 5. Provenance Evidence
 6. Type Evidence
- List of Relationship designators



The screenshot shows the RBMS Controlled Vocabularies website. At the top, there is a header with the RBMS logo and the text "Rare Books and Manuscripts Section, Association of College and Research Libraries, A Division of the American Library Association". Below the header is a navigation bar with "Home >> Committees >> Bibliographic Standards Committee" and a search bar labeled "Search the RBMS website:". The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column is a "Contents" menu with links to "RBMS Home", "Conferences", "Committees", "Careers and Scholarships", "Resources", "News Blog", and "About RBMS". The right column is titled "RBMS Controlled Vocabularies" and "Controlled Vocabularies for Use in Rare Book and Special Collections Cataloging". It contains a notice about the suspension of new term submissions and the integration of existing thesauri into a new, integrated vocabulary. Below the notice, there is a welcome message and information about the scope and application of the vocabularies. At the bottom, there is a search bar labeled "Search for a term within the vocabularies:" and a "GO" button.

RBMS
Rare Books and Manuscripts Section
Association of College and Research Libraries
A Division of the American Library Association

Home >> Committees >> Bibliographic Standards Committee

Search the RBMS website:

Contents

- RBMS Home
- Conferences
- Committees
- Careers and Scholarships
- Resources
- News Blog
- About RBMS

RBMS Controlled Vocabularies

Controlled Vocabularies for Use in Rare Book and Special Collections Cataloging

The RBMS Controlled Vocabularies Editorial Group has suspended accepting submissions of new terms for its six thesauri. The Editorial Group is in the process of integrating the thesauri into a new, integrated vocabulary that will be released as linked open data. Once the new RBMS vocabulary has been published, the Editorial Group will begin accepting submissions of terms for this resource.

This does not apply to the relationship designators. They will remain a separate resource and will also be published as linked open data.

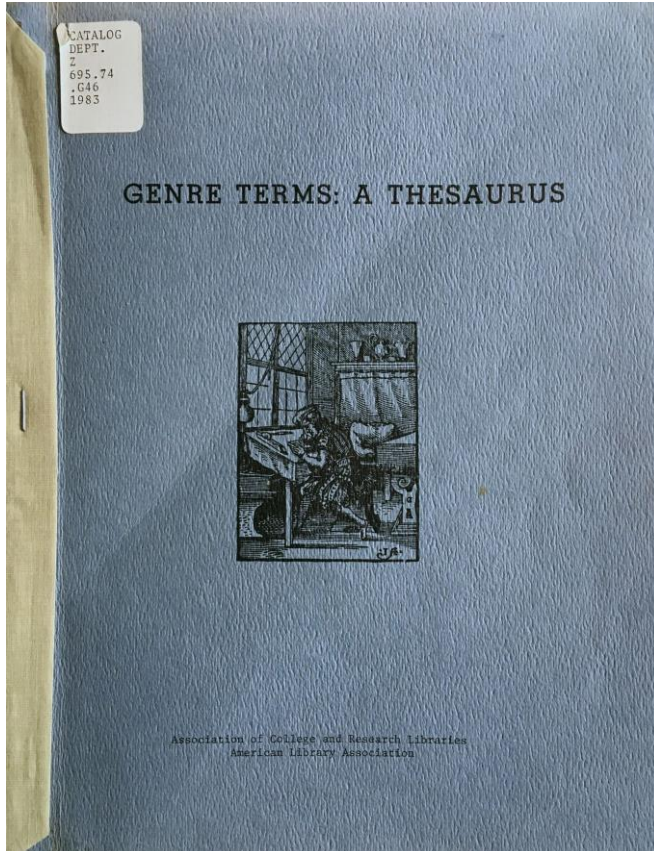
Welcome to the Controlled Vocabularies for Use in Rare Book and Special Collections Cataloging, developed and maintained by the Bibliographic Standards Committee of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (ACRL/ALA). These thesauri provide standardized vocabulary for retrieving special collections materials by form, genre, or by various physical characteristics that are typically of interest to researchers and special collections librarians, and for relating materials to individuals or corporate bodies.

For information about the scope, application, and historical development of a thesaurus, please consult the digitized introductions to each text. All terms from the original print versions, as well as additions and changes since publication, are integrated into the databases below. We appreciate your patience as we improve the design and functionality of these databases, and welcome your comments.

Search for a term within the vocabularies:

ENHANCED BY Google

Genre Terms (1983)



Literature of prejudice

UF Hate literature

Prejudice, Literature of

NT Anti-Catholic literature

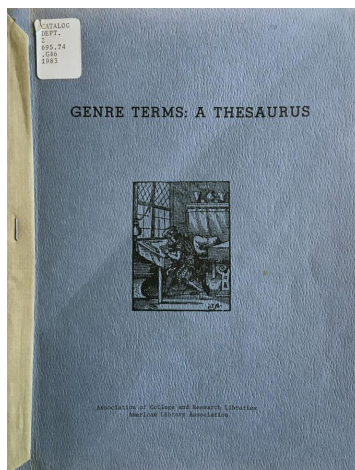
Anti-clerical literature

Anti-Masonic literature

Anti-Semitic literature

UF = “used for”

NT = “narrower term”



Genre Terms (1983)

Literature of prejudice

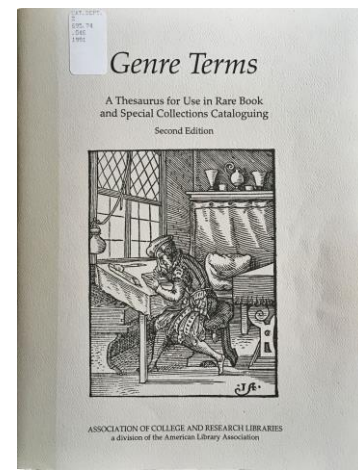
- UF Hate literature
- Prejudice, Literature of
- NT Anti-Catholic literature
- Anti-clerical literature
- Anti-Masonic literature
- Anti-Semitic literature

UF = "used for"

BT = "broader term"

NT = "narrower term"

Genre Terms (1991)
2nd edition



Literature of prejudice

- UF Hate literature
- Prejudice, Literature of
- BT [Political works]
- NT Anti-Catholic literature
- Anti-clerical literature
- Anti-communist literature
- Anti-homosexual literature
- Anti-immigrant literature
- Anti-Masonic literature
- Anti-Semitic literature
- White supremacist literature
- Xenophobic literature

Genre Terms (1983)

Literature of prejudice

- UF Hate literature
Prejudice, Literature of
- NT Anti-Catholic literature
Anti-clerical literature
Anti-Masonic literature
Anti-Semitic literature

Genre Terms (1991) 2nd edition

Literature of prejudice

- UF Hate literature
Prejudice, Literature of
- BT [Political works]
- NT Anti-Catholic literature
Anti-clerical literature
Anti-communist literature
Anti-homosexual literature
Anti-immigrant literature
Anti-Masonic literature
Anti-Semitic literature
White supremacist literature
Xenophobic literature

RBMS Controlled Vocabularies (2005-2018)

Literature of prejudice

Scope Note

Use for literature that expresses a negative sentiment toward a particular group of society, especially for reasons based on religion, race, gender, creed, or national origin.

Used For

[Hate literature](#)

Used For

[Prejudice, literature of](#)

Broader Term

[Political works](#)

Narrower Term

[Anti-Catholic literature](#)

Narrower Term

[Anti-clerical literature](#)

Narrower Term

[Anti-communist literature](#)

Narrower Term

[Anti-homosexual literature](#)

Narrower Term

[Anti-immigrant literature](#)

Narrower Term

[Anti-Masonic literature](#)

Narrower Term

[Anti-Semitic literature](#)

Narrower Term

[White supremacist literature](#)

Narrower Term

[Xenophobic literature](#)

Controlled Vocabulary for Rare Materials Cataloging (2022-)

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar with the Library of Congress logo and a search box containing 'Everything' and 'Search Loc.gov'. Below this is a breadcrumb trail: 'The Library of Congress > Linked Data Service > RBMS Thesauri'. The main search area has a text input field with 'Search RBMS Thesauri', a blue 'GO' button, and a dropdown menu for 'Search In' set to 'RBMS Thesauri'.

Controlled Vocabulary for Rare Materials Cataloging

Welcome to the Controlled Vocabulary for Rare Materials Cataloging. This scheme maintained by the Controlled Vocabularies Editorial Group of the Rare Books and (ACRL/ALA). These thesauri provide standardized vocabulary for retrieving special form, genre, or by various physical characteristics that are typically of interest to collections librarians, and for relating materials to individuals or corporate bodies. the scope, application, and historical development of a thesaurus, please consult the introductions to each text. All terms from the original print versions, as well as added since publication, are integrated into the databases below. We appreciate your part the design and functionality of these databases, and welcome your comments. Pr https://rbms.info/vocabularies/form_thesaurus_term_proposal.shtml Contact email vocabularies@rbms.info

version 2.0

This is a beta version of this vocabulary, not to be used in cataloging.

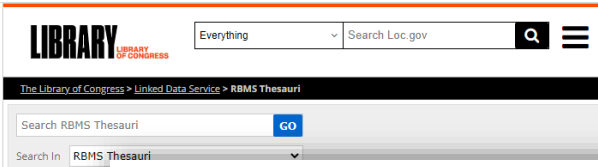
Prejudicial works

- SN: Use for works that exhibit bias in relation to a particular group or groups of people based on religion, race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, ability, creed, national origin, etc. For works that express hatred or advocate harm toward a particular group of people, use: Hate works.
- UF: Works of prejudice
- BT: Content of work (Gathering term; do not assign)
- NT: Anti-Catholic works
Anti-clerical works
Anti-communist works
Anti-immigrant works
Anti-Masonic works
Anti-queer works
Anti-Semitic works
Fascist works
Misogynistic works
Nazi works
Racist works
Xenophobic works
- RT: Hate works

SN = "scope note"
UF = "used for"
BT = "broader term"

NT = "narrower term"
RT = "related term"

Controlled Vocabulary for Rare Materials Cataloging (2022-)



Controlled Vocabulary

Prejudicial works

SN: Use for works that exhibit bias in favor of or against a group or groups of people based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, ability, age, or geographic origin, etc. For works that express hostility toward a particular group of people.

UF: Works of prejudice

BT: Content of work (Gathering term; do not assign)

NT: Anti-Catholic works
Anti-clerical works
Anti-communist works
Anti-immigrant works
Anti-Masonic works
Anti-queer works
Anti-Semitic works
Fascist works
Misogynistic works
Nazi works
Racist works
Xenophobic works

RT: Hate works

Anti-queer works

SN: Use for works that exhibit hostility toward or bias against sexual or gender minorities. [Provisional term proposed by Controlled Vocabulary Prejudicial Materials Working Group, 6/2021, pending review.]

UF: Anti-LGBTQ works
Anti-LGBTQ+ works
Anti-LGBTQIA works

BT: Prejudicial works

NT: Homophobic works
Transphobic works

Racist works

SN: Use for works that exhibit hostility toward or bias against peoples or cultures racialized as other by the dominant group or culture of a specific place or time. [Provisional term proposed by Controlled Vocabulary Prejudicial Materials Working Group, 6/2021, pending review.]

BT: Prejudicial works

NT: Anti-Asian works
Anti-Black works
Anti-Indigenous works
Anti-Latin American works
Racist caricatures
White supremacist works

RT: Anti-Semitic works
Xenophobic works

Controlled Vocabulary for Rare Materials Cataloging (2022-)

Blackface minstrel songs

SN: Use for songs or collections of songs intended to be performed in Blackface minstrelsy, an entertainment form in white popular culture originating in the United States in the mid-19th century. Blackface minstrelsy is based around stereotypical and racist portrayals of African Americans, including mocking dialect, parodic lyrics, and the application of black face paint.

BT: Anti-Black works
Songs

RT: Blackface minstrel jokes

Blackface minstrel jokes

SN: Use for jokes or collections of jokes intended to be performed in Blackface minstrelsy, an entertainment form in white popular culture originating in the United States in the mid-19th century. Blackface minstrelsy is based around stereotypical and racist portrayals of African Americans, including mocking dialect, parodic lyrics, and the application of black face paint.

BT: Anti-Black works
RT: Blackface minstrel songs

RBMS Controlled Vocabularies (2005-2018)

RBMS Controlled Vocabularies: Genre Terms

Alphabetical List | Hierarchical List

[<< Promptbooks](#) | [Propaganda](#) | [Hierarchical View](#) | [Prospectuses >>](#)

Back to: "P"

Propaganda

Broader Term

Political works

Narrower Term

Anti-abolition literature

Narrower Term

Anti-slave trade literature

Narrower Term

Antislavery literature

Controlled Vocabulary for Rare Materials Cataloging (2022-)



Everything



Search Loc.gov



[The Library of Congress](#) > [Linked Data Service](#) > **RBMS Thesauri**

Propaganda

Use for materials created or disseminated by a person, organization, or government with the intent to manipulate or control public opinion in support of a specific agenda (political, social, economic, religious, etc.), often through the presentation of biased or misleading information.

This term is in beta testing.

ANSI/NISO Z39.19



ANSI/NISO Z39.19-2005 (R2010)

ISBN: 1-880124-65-3

Guidelines for the Construction, Format, and Management of Monolingual Controlled Vocabularies

Abstract: This Standard presents guidelines and conventions for the contents, display, construction, testing, maintenance, and management of monolingual controlled vocabularies. This Standard focuses on controlled vocabularies that are used for the representation of content objects in knowledge organization systems including lists, synonym rings, taxonomies, and thesauri. This Standard should be regarded as a set of recommendations based on preferred techniques and procedures. Optional procedures are, however, sometimes described, e.g., for the display of terms in a controlled vocabulary. The primary purpose of vocabulary control is to achieve consistency in the description of content objects and to facilitate retrieval. Vocabulary control is accomplished by three principal methods: defining the scope, or meaning, of terms; using the equivalence relationship to link synonymous and nearly synonymous terms; and distinguishing among homographs.

“Warrant” for a “concept” or “preferred term” in Z39.19

1. Literary warrant

“Justification ... because of its frequent occurrence in the literature”

2. Organizational warrant

“Justification ... due to characteristics and context of the organization”

3. User warrant

“Justification ... because of frequent requests for information on the concept or free-text searches on the term by users of an information storage and retrieval system.”

Literary Warrant, Privilege, and Language of the Oppressor

Who has access to publishing?

Who is in a position to publish?

What are their interests?

Who has time and support necessary
to write a book, or scholarly article?

Who is in a position to have their work
seriously considered by publishers?

Who is in control of the
vocabulary of “the news”?

Who is heard and considered if they object
to the way they are being described?

Who is in control of naming and what are their interests?

Prejudicial Materials Terminology: Purpose and Effect

- Facilitate the study of oppression
- Mitigate further harm or misunderstanding
- Serve as content warning
- Avoid contributing to harm
- Avoid masking harm

... but what about “neutrality”?

“Neutrality” and the role of the cataloger is changing

“... role of the cataloger is to let an item self-represent, to describe it neutrally, and not label it in a way that might lead to the equivalent of a Wikipedia editing war on the [WorldCat] record”

“... role of the *cataloger* is to make a resource discoverable and the role of a *scholar* is to interpret [and] to contextualize the resource”

Rare Books and Manuscripts
Section (RBMS) Technical
Services Discussion Group,
January 2017

“... catalogers and their descriptions of resources intersect with reference librarians and their role in information literacy”

“Neutrality” and cataloging today

Neutrality...

... depends on your point of view

... does not always serve description and access

... is possibly invoked because of discomfort

... allows the privileged to do nothing

Controlled Vocabulary for Rare Materials Cataloging (2022-)

Additions by the Prejudicial Materials Working Group

Genre terms

- Anti-Asian works
 - narrower term: Anti-Chinese works
 - narrower term: Anti-Indian works
 - narrower term: Anti-Japanese works
 - narrower term: Anti-Pakistani works
- Anti-Black works
- Anti-Indigenous works
- Anti-Latin American works
 - narrower term: Anti-Mexican works
- Anti-queer works
- Bills of sale for enslaved persons
- Colonialist works
- Fascist works
- Freedom documents
- Hate works
- Leases for the rental of enslaved persons
- Manumission documents
- Misogynistic works
- Nazi works
- Racist works
- Transphobic works

Relationship designators

- enslaver
- enslaved person

Prejudicial Materials Working Group

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