

# THEORY AND PRACTICE OF CLASSIFICATION

## SESSION 12 – PRACTICAL EXERCISE

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# Session Overview

- In this session, students have been given titles which have been classified base on the classification scheme extract attached as Appendix B.
- The reasons for arriving at the stated class numbers have been explained stage by stage base on the principles you were introduced to in session 7

# Session Outline

The key topics to be covered in the session are as follows:

- Topic One : The classification scheme
- Topic Two : Identifying subdivision
- Topic Three: Identifying second subdivisions
- Topic Four: Classified titles

# Reading List

- Read Chapter 6 of recommended text - Batley, Sue. (2005) Classification in theory and practice Oxford : Chandos

- Topic One : The classification scheme

# The classification scheme

- The extract of the classification scheme you have been provided as an appendix is what you will use for practical exercises in this course.
- Please note that the principles for classification work the same way for all types of classification schemes
- This particular one you have been provided with is an extract from the LCC

# The classification scheme

- It is the section that deals with chemistry.
- The knowledge area of science in the LCC is assigned the notation Q – refer to the slide on LCC in session 9
- Chemistry is a major branch of science and is therefore assigned the notation QD –
  - D for the subdivision : chemistry

# The classification scheme

- The numbers and alphabets written in the left column are the notations
- The list of titles from the center to the right make up the schedule
- Refer to the sessions 6 and 7 for further explanations



- Topic Two : Identifying subdivision

# Identifying subdivision

- Take a critical look at the scheme;
- You will notice that the subject title; CHEMISTRY is written in capital to indicate that as the major subject for that section.
- On page 167 of the extract you will find that chemistry was written again but this time in small letters and indented outward to the left.
- This is to indicate that all the topics listed under that section is on the broad subject 'Chemistry' and not a branch of chemistry

# Identifying subdivision

- Now identify some of the major topics that were listed under the major subject chemistry;
- You should identify topics such as;
  - Periodicals
  - Museums
  - Dictionaries
  - Encyclopaedia
  - History

- Topic Three: Identifying second subdivisions

# Identifying second subdivisions

- I am sure now you can identify the major subdivisions under the broader subject; Chemistry.
- Let us try to identify second subdivisions
- “Communication of chemical information” is a first division under the subject Chemistry

# Identifying second subdivisions

- Communication of chemical information
  - General works
  - information services
  - Chemical literature
  - Abstracting and indexing
  - Language. Authorship
  - Translating. Translating services
  - Computer network resources
- All the topics listed above under “communication of Chemical information” are sub topics under communication of chemical information

- Topic Four: Classified titles

# Example One

- Title of book to classify: **Index of works on chemistry**
- Let us try to assign a notation to the title above
- Step 1: Identify the subject of the title
- It is an index that lists works done in the field on chemistry
- It is an indication that the work must be place under general chemistry and not under a branch of chemistry



# Example One

- Index is a means communication to disseminate scholarly materials
- Therefore this work should be classified under
- “Communication of chemical information”
- And a specific place has been assigned to such works in the scheme
- “Abstracting and indexing”
- The notation for abstracting and indexing is
- QD 9
- QD 9 is therefore the notation for our topic : **Index of works on chemistry**

# Example Two

- Title of book: **Dictionary of chemistry**
- This title is very simple, it is a dictionary that list concepts from every branch of chemistry
- The major subject area is therefore general chemistry
- The notation is QD 5

# Example Three

- Topic: **The philosophical foundations of chemistry**
- This title is also very simple, it is document that explains the philosophy behind the chemistry
- The major subject area is therefore general chemistry
- The notation is QD 6

# Example Four

- Topic: **Fundamentals of analytical chemistry (2004)**
- This topic deals a branch of chemistry (analytical chemistry)
- A specific publication data has also been assigned to the topic
- The subject area is therefore analytical chemistry
- The topic indicated is a fundamental book
- This means it is a general work
- The notation is **QD75.22**

# Example Five

- Topic: **Instrumentation in Analytical chemistry**
- This topic deals a branch of chemistry (analytical chemistry)
- The subject area is therefore analytical chemistry
- The topic is on instrumentation
- This means it is supposed to be classified under instrumental analysis
- The notation is **QD79.I5**

# Example Six

- Topic: **Statistics for analytical chemistry**
- This topic deals a branch of chemistry (analytical chemistry)
- The subject area is therefore analytical chemistry
- The topic is on statistics
- This means it is supposed to be classified under statistical methods
- The notation is QD75.4.S8

# Example Seven

- Topic: **How to solve general chemistry problems**
- This topic is on general chemistry
- The specific area is Study, teaching and Research
- Problems, exercises, examinations is the most appropriate area to put this topic
- The notation is: **QD42**

# Example Eight

- Topic: **Experiments in modern analytical chemistry**
- This topic deals a branch of chemistry (analytical chemistry)
- The subject area is therefore analytical chemistry
- The topic is on experiments
- This means it is supposed to be classified under Study, teaching and Research
  - Laboratory manuals
- The notation is **QD76**