

CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM INVOLVED IN LIBRARY SCIENCE THEORY AND ITS PRACTICE

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ABOUT THE STUDY

Library science is an interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary field that applies management practices, perspectives, and tools to libraries; the collection, organization, preservation, and dissemination of information resources; and the political economy of information. Martin Schrettinger, a Bavarian librarian, coined the term in his work *Versuch eines vollständigen Lehrbuchs der Bibliothek-Wissenschaft oder Anleitung zur vollständigen Geschäftsführung eines Bibliothekars* (1808-1828). Rather than categorizing information based on natural elements, as he had done previously in his Bavarian library, Schrettinger organized books alphabetically. Melville Dewey established the first American school of library science at Columbia University in 1887. Historically, library science included archival science as well. This includes how information resources are organized to meet the needs of specific user groups, how people interact with classification systems and technology, how people acquire, evaluate, and apply information in and outside of libraries, as well as cross-culturally, how people are trained and educated for careers in libraries, the ethics that guide library service and organization, the legal status of libraries and information resources, and the applied science of libraries and information resources.

There is no universally accepted distinction between library science and librarianship. They are interchangeable to some extent, perhaps most significantly in connotation. Most librarians regard the term library and information studies, abbreviated as LIS, as merely a terminological variation intended to emphasize the subject's scientific and technical foundations and relationship with information science. Information theory, the mathematical study of the concept of information, should not be confused with LIS. Library philosophy, as opposed to library science, has been defined as the study of the goals and justifications of librarianship as opposed to the development and refinement of techniques.

Theory and practice

Many practicing librarians do not contribute to LIS scholarship and instead concentrate on the day-to-day operations of their own libraries or library systems. Other practicing librarians, particularly those in academic libraries, conduct original scholarly LIS research and contribute to the field's academic end.

Individual professional librarians may or may not contribute to scholarly research and publication; however, many are involved in and contribute to the advancement of the profession and of library science through local, state, regional, national, and international library or information organizations.

Library science is closely related to knowledge organization issues; however, the latter is a broader term that encompasses how knowledge is represented and stored, how it may be automatically processed, and how it is organized outside of the library in global systems such as the internet. Furthermore, library science typically refers to a specific community engaged in managing holdings as found in university and government libraries, whereas knowledge organization in general refers to this as well as other communities and systems. As a result, the library system is a socio-technical structure for knowledge organization.

The terms information organization and knowledge organization are frequently used interchangeably. The fundamentals of

their study, as well as many of the main tools used by the disciplines today to provide access to digital resources, originated in the nineteenth century and were developed, in part, to help make humanity's intellectual output accessible by recording, identifying, and providing bibliographic control of printed knowledge. There is information available that examines the relationships between Philosophy of Information (PI), Library and Information Science (LIS), and Social Epistemology (SE).

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