

Cataloging Graphic Novels



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Objectives

- Understand users of your collection
 - Workflow issues
 - Determine approach (single record vs. multiple record)
 - Descriptive cataloging (monographs)
 - Name tracings
 - Subject and genre headings
 - Classification
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Your Users

- Comic book/graphic novel aficionados?
 - Pleasure readers?
 - Faculty/staff?
 - Students writing papers?
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Workflow issues

- Copy cataloging vs. complex copy at GPC
 - All graphic novels are routed through catalog librarians to allow for closer scrutiny of records
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Serial vs. Monograph, Multi-Volume Single vs. Analyzed

- Graphic novel series are complicated in their manifestations
 - GPC prefers monograph records for graphic novels, and a single record approach to multi-volume works when possible and appropriate
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Descriptive Cataloging

Fixed field (008):

Literary form code (LitF, or 008/33) [optional]

c = comic strips

Alternatively, 1 (fiction) or 0 (nonfiction)

MARC Proposal 2008-04: 008/24-27 new code
proposed

4 = comics/graphic novels

Descriptive Cataloging (cont.)

300 \$a:

Unpaged/irregular paging often occurs. GPC prefers:

1 v. (unpaged) or 1 v. (various pagings)

But, you can count and bracket the number of pages or list pagination if you wish

\$b: “chiefly ill.” of some variety

chiefly ill. ; chiefly col. ill. ; chiefly ill. (some col.) ;

chiefly ill. (chiefly col.)

Descriptive Cataloging (cont.)

245 \$c: Title page is often not where you will find the statement of responsibility – make sure to bracket and make a note if necessary

Name tracings

- Many different individuals involved in creation of graphic novels, including colorists, letterers, etc.
- “Credits” can be lengthy, but generally include in your statement of responsibility, and trace, anyone who is principally responsible for the content

Ex.: Frank Miller's Ronin / created, written, and drawn by Frank Miller ; paints by Lynn Varley ; lettered by John Costanza.

Abandon the old in Tokyo / Yoshihiro Tatsumi ; [edited, designed, and lettered by Adrian Tomine ; translated by Yuji Oniki].

Subject Headings

- GPC uses any appropriate Library of Congress subject headings with the form subdivision “Comic books, strips, etc.”
 - 650_0 ‡a Samurai ‡v Comic books, strips, etc.
 - 651_0 ‡a Japan ‡x History ‡y Tokugawa period, 1600-1868 ‡v Comic books, strips, etc.
 - See also H 1430 “Comics and Comic Characters” in LC Subject Cataloging Manual: Subject Headings
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Genre Headings

- GPC chooses one of these Library of Congress genre headings for graphic novels:
 - 655 _0 ‡a Comic books, strips, etc.
 - 655 _0 ‡a Graphic novels.

(Excerpted from LC authorities: "A graphic novel is "an original book-length story, either fiction or nonfiction, published in comic book style or a collection of stories that have been published previously as individual comic books." "All graphic novels are comic books, but not all comic books are graphic novels.")

Classification

- Class fiction and nonfiction together so they shelve together?
 - Class fictional graphic novels together and class nonfiction graphic novels in topical class numbers?
 - LC classes fictional graphic novels in the PN6700-PN6790 range and nonfiction classed elsewhere (see LC Subject Cataloging Manual: Classification, F 565 “Comic Books” for official LC policy)
 - Dewey – there is some debate – class all in 741.5 (Cartoons/Cartooning) or in another number based on other criteria
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Classification (cont.)

- **Our policy:**
 - “Graphic novels and comic strips are classed by the region or country of their creation (not publication) then double-cuttered by main entry (usually author, then title) according to LCC policy for the PN6725-PN6778 range.

PN6725	History [H R B L D S]
PN6726	Collections [H R B L D S]
PN6727.A-Z	Individual authors or works, A-Z [H R B L D S] Subarrange individual authors by Table P-PZ40 Subarrange individual works by Table P-PZ43 Prefer classification of comic strips by title For juvenile graphic novels, see subclass PZ
PN6728.A-Z	Individual comic strips. By title, A-Z [H R B L D S] For juvenile graphic novels, see subclass PZ
PN6731-6734	Canada Table PN11 [H R B L D S]
PN6735-6738	Great Britain Table PN11 [H R B L D S]
PN6745-6748	France Table PN11 modified [H R B L D S]
PN6747.A-Z	Individual authors or works, A-Z [H R B L D S] Subarrange individual authors by Table P-PZ40 Subarrange individual works by Table P-PZ43
PN6747.G5	Gir, 1938- Table P-PZ40 [H R B L D S] Giraud, Jean see PN6747.G5 [H R] Moebius, 1938- see PN6747.G5 [H R]
PN6755-6758	Germany Table PN11 [H R B L D S]
PN6765-6768	Italy Table PN11 [H R B L D S]
PN6775-6778	Spain Table PN11 [H R B L D S]

Classification (cont.)

- Our policy (cont.):

PN6790 is for regions or countries lacking their own class numbers (basically anything non-Western), so the cuttering is handled using the following expansion table.

.x (plus 2nd cutter for main entry)

books about graphic novel or comic strip or histories of comics and graphic novels

.x2 (plus 2nd cutter for main entry)

collections of graphic novels or comic strips including several authors/titles

.x3 (plus 2nd cutter to sub-arrange by author)

individual graphic novels or comic strips, author main entry

.x4 (plus 2nd cutter to sub-arrange by title)

individual graphic novels or comic strips, title main entry

Classification (cont.)

- Additionally, we have a policy regarding works about the art of cartooning:
“Instructional or critical works about manga, anime, cartoon animals, cartoon anatomy, etc. are classed according to LCC policy for the following range: NC1764-NC1764.8”
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Comic books, strips, etc. [[H](#) [R](#) [B](#) [L](#) [D](#) [S](#)]

Class here works on how to draw comics and cartoon characters

For comics as a literary form see [PN6700-6790](#) [[H](#) [R](#)]

NC1764

General works [[H](#) [R](#) [B](#) [L](#) [D](#) [S](#)]

NC1764.5.A-Z

Special regions or countries, A-Z [[H](#) [R](#) [B](#) [L](#) [D](#) [S](#)]

Under each:

.x

General works

.x2A-.x2Z

Special artists, A-Z

NC1764.8.A-Z

Special topics, A-Z [[H](#) [R](#) [B](#) [L](#) [D](#) [S](#)]

NC1764.8.A47

Airplanes [[H](#) [R](#) [B](#) [L](#) [D](#) [S](#)]

NC1764.8.A54

Animals [[H](#) [R](#) [B](#) [L](#) [D](#) [S](#)]

NC1764.8.A55

Animals, Mythical [[H](#) [R](#) [B](#) [L](#) [D](#) [S](#)]

NC1764.8.B57

Birds [[H](#) [R](#) [B](#) [L](#) [D](#) [S](#)]

NC1764.8.B87

Butt-Ugly Martians (Fictitious characters) [[H](#) [R](#) [B](#) [L](#) [D](#) [S](#)]

NC1764.8.C37

Cats [[H](#) [R](#) [B](#) [L](#) [D](#) [S](#)]

NC1764.8.D54

Digimon (Fictitious characters) [[H](#) [R](#) [B](#) [L](#) [D](#) [S](#)]

Resources

- AUTOCAT listserv (search archives for “graphic novels”, and get many hits!)
 - GNLIB listserv (Graphic Novels in Libraries)
 - GPC policy, developed by Tessa Minchew and Kathy Gallo
<http://www.gpc.edu/library/technicalservices/cat/monoclass.html>
 - LC Subject Cataloging Manual: Classification, F 565 “Comic Books”
 - LC Subject Cataloging Manual: Subject Headings, H 1430 “Comics and Comic Characters”
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Resources (cont.)

- O'English, Lorena, Matthews, J. Gregory, and Lindsay, Elizabeth Blakely. Graphic novels in libraries : from Maus to Manga and beyond. *Journal of Academic Librarianship*. Vol. 32, No. 2 (March 2006). pp. 173-182.
 - Ohio State CGA/EAS MANGA CATALOGING PROJECT
Cataloging Manual
<http://library.osu.edu/sites/scc/locs/mangaprij.php>
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