

Class PS8000

A Classification for Canadian Literature

Fifth Edition

Gatineau

Library and Archives Canada

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Preface to the fifth edition

LAC's Indigenous Heritage Action Plan states that we will adapt the way we describe LAC's collection items related to First Nations, Inuit and the Métis Nation to enhance access and ensure a culturally appropriate and respectful approach.

Because the language describing Indigenous materials is often not reflective of the terminology preferred by First Nation, Inuit and Métis Nation communities in Canada, in 2019, LAC started a review of subject headings and classification. The direct contribution of First Nations, Inuit and the Métis Nation is an essential part of our efforts to update the vocabulary.

The fifth edition of *Class PS8000, a classification for Canadian literature*, was revised in 2022-2023 to update the vocabulary describing Indigenous Peoples.

Preface to the fourth edition

The fourth edition of *Class PS8000: a classification for Canadian literature* is a revision of the third edition of the schedule which appeared in 2003. The PS8000 schedule was first developed in response to a need in Canada for a more specific treatment of the topic than that provided by the Library of Congress schedules. In particular, a comprehensive classification scheme for Canadian literature regardless of language is considered preferable in the Canadian context to the arrangement provided by the Library of Congress classification which separates Canadian literature by language, placing, for example, Canadian literature in English in PR and Canadian literature in French in PQ.

It is not possible for the Library of Congress to adopt and incorporate PS8000 into its own classification because PS8000 differs in principle from Library of Congress practice, both in its assembling of Canadian literature regardless of language and in keeping novels with the rest of Canadian literature instead of placing them in PZ. The Library of Congress, however, recognizes a need for PS8000 and endorses its use as an official alternate classification scheme. In order to eliminate the danger of a conflict in notation at some future date, the Library of Congress gives assurance that it will never develop the PS8000 area for its own uses.

The fourth edition has been prepared electronically. This will enable Library and Archives Canada to update the schedule on a more frequent basis.

The cataloguing staff of Library and Archives Canada has drawn on its years of experience with the PS8000 schedule and the Library's extensive collection of Canadian literature to prepare the fourth edition. We would like to acknowledge the contributions of the cataloguing staff, and in particular the efforts of Laura May, Paula Van Strien and Michael van Dyk in the preparation of this fourth edition.

Comments from interested users have been most useful in updating the schedule. Library and Archives Canada welcomes further suggestions for future expansion and refinement of the schedule.

Introduction

The PS8000 schedule for Canadian literature is based on the Library of Congress schedule for American literature in English (PS1-PS3626). PS8000 is uniquely different from the LC literature schedules in that it brings together all Canadian literature regardless of language. Not only does the Canadian schedule replace the Library of Congress number ranges for English Canadian literature (PR9180-9199.4) and French Canadian literature (PQ3900 – PQ3919.3), but also Canadian literature that would fall into all of the other language groupings in the LC schedules.

Even though PS8000 classifies Canadian literature together in one sequence, provisions have been made to allow libraries to provide separate classification numbers for French Canadian literature. To do this PS8000 uses only odd numbers, leaving even numbers optional for the separate classification of French Canadian literature. Some libraries have classified all Canadian literature together, some have used odd and even numbers for English and French respectively, but many more have adopted the practice (not even contemplated in the original schedule) of simply converting PS8000 to PS9000 for French Canadian literature. Provisions have also been made within the schedule for distinguishing history and criticism as well as collections of the literature of the many heritage languages of Canada.

We are often asked by cataloguers across the country to provide them with guidelines as to who is a Canadian author. Often authors whose work we catalogue make this obvious by stating their nationality. The question becomes more complex, when, as is often the case, many new Canadians start their writing careers in another country. In general, at Library and Archives Canada, our practice is to use the PS8000 schedule for new Canadians based on an author's residence in Canada and apparent intent to remain here.

As has been stated, the PS8000 schedule follows the general structure of the Library of Congress schedule for American literature in English. The schedule starts with generalities, followed by history and criticism, then collections of Canadian literature and finally works by individual authors. The Canadian schedule provides for more time periods than the LC schedules for English and French Canadian literature. In general, PS8000 provides the following time periods:

Pre-Confederation
1867-1913
1914-1967
1968-2003
2004-

The fourth edition covers new time periods and new concepts in literary forms and studies. These are illustrated in the examples provided throughout the schedule.

Outline PS8001-8649

8001-8039 **General**

8031-8039 Study and teaching

8041-8057 **Canadian literary criticism** (as a subject)

8061-8227 **History and criticism of Canadian literature**

8061-8079 General

8081-8087 Biography

8089-8107 Special topics

8111-8117 By period

8129-8133 By region, province, city

8139-8227 Special forms

8139-8159 Poetry

8161-8177 Drama

8179-8185 Prose

8187-8199 Prose fiction

8203 Oratory

8205 Diaries

8207 Letters

8211 Essays

8215 Wit and humour. Satire

8219 Miscellany. Curiosa. Eccentric literature

8223-8227 Folk literature

8231-8379 **Collections of Canadian literature**

8231-8241 General

8245-8251 By period

8255-8257 By region, province, city

8273-8379 Special forms

8273-8299 Poetry

8305-8317 Drama

8319-8331 Prose fiction

8333-8343 Oratory

8347-8357 Letters

8363-8373 Essays

8375 Wit and humour. Satire

8377-8379 Folk literature

8400-8649 **Individual authors**

Table of subdivisions under individual authors

Index

General PS8001-8039

General

- 8001 Periodicals
Only periodical devoted exclusively to creative literature and literary history and criticism are classed here
Includes periodicals devoted to special forms of literature (e.g., Poetry)
- 8003 Yearbooks
- 8005 Societies
Includes societies devoted to special forms of literature (e.g., Poetry)
Societies devoted to literature in general are classed in PN21-29
- 8007 Congresses

Collections of monographs, studies, etc.

- 8011 By several authors
.5 By individual authors, .A-.Z
- 8015 Encyclopaedias. Dictionaries
- 8021 Theory and principles of the study of Canadian literature
- 8023 History of Canadian literary history
- 8025 Biography of historians and critics of Canadian literature
.A1, Collective
.A2-.Z, Individual
- 8027 Philosophy, relation to other subjects, etc.
Including relation to Canadian history
Cf. PS8093-8097

Study and teaching

Cf. PN171.4-239, Technique. Literary composition. Rhetoric

- 8031 General works

Study and teaching during the period

- 8033 By period
.1 Pre-Confédération
.2 1867-1913
.3 1914-1967
.4 1968-2003
.5 2004-
- 8035 By place, .A-.Z
- 8037 By school, college or university, .A-.Z
- 8039 By form, .A-.Z
e.g., .D7, Drama
.E8, Essays
.F5, Fiction
.O7, Oratory
.P6, Poetry
.P7, Prose
.W5, Wit and humour
.5 Literary research

Canadian Literary Criticism PS8041-8057

Canadian literary criticism as a subject

- 8041 General works
- 8043 Minor works
- 8045 History of Canadian literary criticism
- 8047 Special topics, by topic, .A-.Z
e.g., .B6, Book reviewing

By period

- 8051 Pre-Confederation
8053 1867-1913
8055 1914-1967
8057 1968-2003
.1 2004-

History and Criticism of Canadian Literature PS8061-8227

General

- 8061 General works
 History and criticism of Canadian literature in general
 Cf. PS8071, 8073, 8075
- 8065 Compendis
- 8067 Outlines, syllabi, tables, charts, questions and answers, etc.
- 8069 Juvenile literature
- 8071 English Canadian literature
 .1 Pre-Confederation
 .2 1867-1913
 .3 1914-1967
 .4 1968-2003
 .5 2004-
- 8073 French Canadian literature
 If using PS9000 for French Canadian literature prefer PS9071.
 If using even numbers for French Canadian literature prefer PS8072.
 .1 Pre-Confederation
 .2 1867-1913
 .3 1914-1967
 .4 1968-2003
 .5 2004-
- 8075 Canadian literature in languages other than English or French
 Including history and criticism of special forms, poetry, drama, etc.,
 e.g., of Canadian poetry in Polish, PS8075.P6, not PS8141
 .A1, General
 .A5-.Z, By language
 e.g., .G3, Gaelic
 .H4, Hebrew
 .I8, Italian
 .P6, Polish
 .U5, Ukrainian
 .5 Canadian literature in Inuktitut
 .7 Canadian literature in First Nations languages and Michif
 .A1, General
 .A2-.Z, By language
 e.g., .C7, Cree

Collected essays, lectures, etc.

- 8077 Early to 2000
 .1 2001-
- 8079 Individual essays, lectures, etc.

Collected biography

Biography of an individual author is classed with the author's works

- 8081 Early to 2000
 .1 2001-
- 8083 Collected memoirs, letters, etc.
 Memoirs, letters, etc., of an individual author are classed with the
 author's works
- 8087 Literary landmarks. Homes and haunts of authors, etc.
 Works devoted to an individual author are classed with the author's
 works

Particular subjects

- 8089 .5 Special classes of authors, by class, .A-Z
 Works about the literary productions of authors associated by a common
 characteristic such as religion or profession. Works about an individual
 author are classed with the author's works
 e.g., .C5, Clergymen
 . F5, First Nations
 .I5, Immigrants
 .I6, Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit, Métis)
 .I65, Inuit
 .I8, Italians
 .J4, Jewish
 .L3, Lawyers
 .M45, Mennonites
 .M48, Métis
 .M55, Minorities
 .P4, Physicians
 .S68, South Asians
 .W6, Women

- 8091 Anonymous literature
Works about an individual anonymous work are classed with the individual work
- 8093 Relation of English and French Canadian literatures to one another

Relation of Canadian literature to other literatures

- 8095 General
- 8097 By country, .A-.Z
e.g., .A4, Relation to American literature
.F7, Relation to the literature of France
.H3, Relation to Haitian literature
- .1 By language, .A-.Z
To be used when subdivision by country is inadequate
e.g., .A7, Relation to Arabic literature
- 8099 Translations of Canadian literature into languages other than English or French
.A1, General
.A5-.Z, By language
- 8101 Treatment of special topics, by topic, .A-.Z
e.g., .A48, Animals
.A5, Anti-Americanism
.N67, North
.P68, Postcolonialism
.R36, Regionalism
.R4, Religion
.W37, War
.W5, Winter
- 8103 Treatment of special classes of persons, by class, .A-.Z
Works about classes of persons as they have been treated in literature
Cf. PS8089.5, Works about the literary productions of particular classes of authors
e.g., .C5, Children
.F5, First Nations
.I6, Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit, Métis)
.I65, Inuit
.L8, Lumberjacks
.M48, Métis
.M5, Miners

.N8, Nurses
.W6, Women

- 8105 Literary movements. Literary schools, .A-.Z
e.g., .R6, Romanticism
- 8107 Literary prizes and awards, .A-.Z
e.g., .G6, Governor General's Literary Awards

By period

History and criticism of the literary productions of the period

- 8111 Pre-Confederation
8113 1867-1913
8115 1914-1967
8117 1968-2003
8119 2004-

By region, province, city

- 8131 By region, province, etc., .A-.Z
e.g., .M2, Manitoba
- 8133 By city, .A-.Z
e.g., .M6, Montréal
.V3, Vancouver

Particular genres

Poetry

Periodicals, *see* PS8001

Societies, *see* PS8005

- 8139 Dictionaries
- 8141 Treatises. General works
- 8143 Minor works. Essays, lectures, etc.
Study and teaching, *see* PS8039.P6
- 8145 Special forms, by form, .A-.Z
e.g., .A4, Allegories
.L9, Lyric poetry
.S6, Sonnets

8147 Special topics, by topic, .A-.Z
e.g., .F45, Feminism
.N3, Nature
.P3, Patriotism
.P58, Poets and poetry
.R4, Religion
.S4, Sea, The

By period

8149 Pre-Confederation
8151 1867-1913
8153 1914-1967
8155 1968-2003
.1 2004-

8159 .5 By region, province, etc., .A-.Z
.7 By city, .A-.Z

Drama

Periodicals, *see* PS8001

Societies, *see* PS8005

8161 Dictionaries

8163 Treatises. General works

8165 Minor works. Essays, lectures, etc.
Study and teaching, *see* PS8039.D7

8167 Special forms, by form, .A-.Z
e.g., .C6, Comedies
.O5, One-act plays
.T7, Tragedies

8169 Special topics, by topic, .A-.Z
e.g., .D4, Depression era
.S4, Separatism

By period

8171 Pre-Confederation
8173 1867-1913
8175 1914-1967
8177 1968-2003
.1 2004-

- .5 By region, province, etc., .A-Z
- .7 By city, .A-Z

Prose

Periodicals, *see* PS8001

Societies, *see* PS8005

- 8179 Dictionaries
- 8181 Treatises. General works
- 8183 Minor works. Essays, lectures, etc.
Study and teaching, *see* PS8039.P7
- 8185 Special topics, by topic, .A-Z
e.g., .C4, Characterization

Prose fiction

- 8187 Treatises. General works
- 8189 Minor works. Essays, lectures, etc.
Study and teaching, *see* PS8039.F5
- 8191 Special forms and topics, by form or topic, .A-Z
e.g., .D4, Detective and mystery stories
.H5, Historical fiction
.W5, Winter

By period

- 8193 Pre-Confederation
- 8195 1867-1913
- 8197 1914-1967
- 8199 1968-2003
- .1 2004-
- .5 By region, province, etc., .A-Z
- .7 By city, .A-Z

Oratory

- 8203 General works
Study and teaching, *see* PS8039.O7

Diaries

8205 General works

Letters

8207 General works

Essays

8211 General works
 Study and teaching, *see* PS8039.E8

Wit and humour. Satire

8215 General works
 Study and teaching, *see* PS8039.W5

Miscellany. Curiosa. Eccentric literature

8219 General works

Folk literature

Cf. GR, Folklore

8223 General works

8225 By region, province, etc., .A-Z

8227 Special topics, by topic, .A-Z
 e.g., .S2, Satan
 .W4, Werewolves

Collections of Canadian Literature PS8231-8379

General

8231 General collections

8233 Minor collections. Selections, anthologies, etc.

8235 Special classes of authors, by class, .A-Z
 e.g., .A44, Aged (*See also*, S45, Seniors)

- .C4, Children
- .C6, College, University and Cégep students
- .F5, First Nations
- .G38, Gay men
- .I6, Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit, Métis)
- .I65, Inuit
- .K67, Korean Canadians
- .L47, Lesbians
- .M48, Métis
- .M56, Minorities
- .P7, Prisoners
- .S3, School students
- .S45, Seniors (*See also*, A44, Aged)
- .T45, Teenagers
- .T73, Transgender
- .W6, Women

.5 Collections in languages other than English or French, by language, .A-.Z
 e.g., .G3, Gaelic
 .H4, Hebrew
 .H85, Hungarian
 .I8, Italian
 .P6, Polish

.7 Collections in Inuktitut

.9 Collections in First Nations languages and Michif, by language, .A-.Z
 e.g., .C7, Cree

8237 Special topics (prose and verse), by topic, .A-.Z
 e.g., .C57, Christmas
 .F67, Forests
 .G5, Ghosts
 .H6, Hockey
 .M43, Medicine
 .N3, Nationalism
 .N35, Nature/Naturalism
 .S6, Sport

8241 Translations of Canadian literature into languages other than English or French,
 by language, .A-.Z

By period

Collections of the literary production of the period

8245 Pre-Confederation

8247 1867-1913
8249 1914-1967
8251 1968-2003
.1 2004-

By region, province, city

8255 By region, province, etc., .A-Z
8257 By city, .A-Z

Particular genres

Poetry

8273 General collections

8279 Minor collections. Selections, anthologies, "birthday books", etc.

8283 Special classes of poets, by class, .A-Z
e.g., .A8, Asian Canadian poets
.B55, Black Canadian poets
.C4, Children
.C6, College students
.C68, Cowboys
.S28, School students
.S6, Soldiers
.W6, Women

8285 Special forms, by form, .A-Z
e.g., .B3, Ballads
.C6, Concrete poetry
.H3, Haiku
.L9, Lyric poetry. Songs
.S6, Sonnets

8287 Special topics, by topic, .A-Z
e.g., .A43, AIDS
.B75, Body, Human
.H5, History
.H63, Hockey
.L6, Love
.P58, Poets and poetry
.R4, Religion
.S6, Spring
.S87, Surrealism
.W3, War

By period

8289 Early through 1913
8291 1914-1967
8293 1968-2003
.1 2004-

By region, province, city

8295 .5 By region, province, etc., .A-.Z
.7 By city, .A-.Z

8297 Translations of Canadian poetry into languages other than English or French
.A2, Polyglot collections
.A5-.Z, By language

8299 Collections in languages other than English or French, by language, .A-.Z
.5 Collections in Inuktitut
.7 Collections in First Nations languages and Michif, by language, .A-.Z

Drama

8305 General collections

8307 Minor collections. Selections, anthologies, etc.

8309 Special collections, by form or topic, .A-.Z
e.g., .C6, Comedies
.I49, Immigrants
.M6, Monologues
.O5, One-act plays
.T7, Tragedies

By period

8311 Early through 1913
8313 1914-1967
8315 1968-2003
.1 2004-

.5 By region, province, etc., .A-.Z
.7 By city, .A-.Z

.9 Translations of Canadian drama into languages other than English or French, by language, .A-.Z

8317 Collections in languages other than English or French, by language, .A-.Z
.5 Collections in Inuktitut
.7 Collections in First Nations languages and Michif, by language, .A-.Z

Prose fiction, including short stories

- 8319 General collections
- 8321 Minor collections. Selections, anthologies, etc.
- 8323 Special collections, by form or topic, .A-.Z
e.g., .A5, Animal stories
.C57, Christmas
.D4, Detective and mystery stories
.G5, Ghost stories
.H67, Horror
.H85, Humorous stories
.S3, Science fiction

By period

- 8325 Early through 1913
- 8327 1914-1967
- 8329 1968-2003
- .1 2004-
- .5 By region, province, etc., .A-.Z
- .7 By city, .A-.Z
- .9 Translations of Canadian fiction into languages other than English or French, by language, .A-.Z
- 8331 Collections in languages, other than English or French, by language, .A-.Z
- .5 Collections in Inuktitut
- .7 Collections in First Nations languages and Michif, by language, .A-.Z

Oratory

- 8333 General collections
- 8335 Minor collections. Selections, anthologies, etc.
- 8337 Special collections, .A-.Z
e.g., .U5, University debates

By period

- 8339 Early through 1913
- 8341 1914-1967
- 8343 1968-2003
- .1 2004-

Letters

- 8347 General collections
- 8349 Minor collections. Selections, anthologies, etc.
- 8351 Special collections, .A-.Z
e.g., .L6, Love letters

By period

- 8353 Early through 1913
- 8355 1914-1967
- 8357 1968-2003
- .1 2004-

Essays

- 8363 General collections
- 8365 Minor collections. Selections, anthologies, etc.
- 8367 Special collections, .A-.Z

By period

- 8369 Early through 1913
- 8371 1914-1967
- 8373 1968-2003
- .1 2004-

Wit and humour. Satire

- 8375 Wit and humour. Satire

Folk literature

Cf. GR, Folklore

- 8377 General collections
- 8379 By region, province, etc., .A-.Z

Individual authors PS8400-8649

Classification of the author is determined by the first letter of the author's name and the period of productivity. The Cutter number for the author is determined by the second letter of the name.

First letter of name	Pre-Confederation	1867-1913	1914-1967	1968-2003	2004-
*Anonymous	8400	8450	8500	8550	8600
A	8401	8451	8501	8551	8601
B	8403	8453	8503	8553	8603
C	8405	8455	8505	8555	8605
D	8407	8457	8507	8557	8607
E	8409	8459	8509	8559	8609
F	8411	8461	8511	8561	8611
G	8413	8463	8513	8563	8613
H	8415	8465	8515	8565	8615
I	8417	8467	8517	8567	8617
J	8419	8469	8519	8569	8619
K	8421	8471	8521	8571	8621
L	8423	8473	8523	8573	8623
M-Mab .A1-19 Mac .A2-.Z	8425	8475	8525	8575	8625
*Mad-Mz	8426	8476	8526	8576	8626
N	8427	8477	8527	8577	8627
O	8429	8479	8529	8579	8629
P	8431	8481	8531	8581	8631
Q	8433	8483	8533	8583	8633
R	8435	8485	8535	8585	8635
S	8437	8487	8537	8587	8637
T	8439	8489	8539	8589	8639
U	8441	8491	8541	8591	8641
V	8443	8493	8543	8593	8643
W	8445	8495	8545	8595	8645
*X	8446	8496	8546	8596	8646
Y	8447	8497	8547	8597	8647
Z	8449	8499	8549	8599	8649

*Where odd and even numbers are used for English Canadian and French Canadian literature respectively these numbers will conflict. In these cases the table above can be modified by adding .5 for French.

<i>e.g.</i>		English	French
	Anonyme	8400	8400.5
	M-Mab .A1-19	8425	8425.5
	Mac .A2-.Z	8425	8425.5

Mad-Mz	8426	8426.5
X	8446	8446.5
Z	8449	8449.5

Table of subdivisions under individual authors

*Taken from Table P-PZ40 for authors prepared by the Library of Congress.

NOTE “.x” represents the Cutter number for the author

Collected works

Including collected works in specific genres

.x date By date

(.xA11-.xA13) By editor

Subarrangement by editor has been discontinued. Beginning in 2005, all collected works are subarranged by date

(.xA14-.xA19) Collected prose, poetry, plays, etc.

For collected genres see .x date

Translations (Collected or selected)

.xA199 Modern versions of early authors in the same language. By date

.xA1995 Polyglot. By date

.xA2 English. By date

.xA3 French. By date

.xA4 German. By date

.xA5-.xA59 Other. By language (alphabetically) and date

Selected works

.xA6 Selected works. Selections. By date

Separate works

.xA61-.xZ458 Separate works. By title

Biography and criticism

.xZ4581-.xZ4589 Periodicals. Societies. Serials

.xZ459 Dictionaries, indexes, etc. By date

.xZ46 Autobiography, journals, memoirs. By date

.xZ48 Letters (Collections). By date
Including collections of letters to and from particular individuals

.xZ5-.xZ999 General works

Index

A

- Addresses
 - see Essays, lectures, etc.
- Aged authors
 - Collections: PS8235.A44
- AIDS, Poetry about
 - Collections: PS8287.A43
- Allegorical poetry
 - History and criticism: PS8145.A4
- Animal stories
 - Collections: PS8323.A5
- Animals
 - Treatment in literature: PS8101.A48
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- Anti-Americanism
 - Treatment in literature: PS8101.A5
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 - Collections: PS8283.B55
- Body, Human, Poetry about
 - Collections: PS8287.B75
- Book reviewing: PS8047.B6

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 - Collections: PS8237.C57
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 - Collections

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- Fiction: PS8329.7
- General: PS8257
- Poetry: PS8295.7
- History and criticism
 - Drama: PS8177.7
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