UCL SSEES Library

Classification scheme

SSEES Library uses its own classification scheme. The books are arranged firstly by the geographical area to which they relate; therefore, classmarks for books on Russia start with the letter "R", those on Bulgaria with "B", those on Romania with "Rou", and so on. The Baltic countries, the Central Asian countries, and also Belarus and Ukraine all have their own sections in the Library. There are also sections which cover a region which is wider than just one country, for example, "Gen.Balk" (Balkans), "Gen.Balt" (Baltic), "Gen.Slav" (Slavonic material in general). There is a "Misc" [Miscellaneous] section which is used for works on Eastern Europe as a whole, as well as material on the West and books that do not have a specific geographical element (e.g. books on political theory, economics, sociology).

**The main classes and their locations**

| Class | Symbol | Location |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Albania | A. | Lower Ground  |
| Armenia | Ar. | Lower Ground  |
| Austria | Aus. | First Floor |
| Azerbaijan | Az. | Lower Ground  |
| Belarus | Bel. | Second Floor |
| Bosnia & Herzegovina | Gen.Ju.Bos. | Lower Ground  |
| Bulgaria | B. | Lower Ground  |
| Central Asia | Cen.Asia. | Lower Ground  |
| Croatia | Gen.Ju.Cro. | Lower Ground  |
| Czechoslovakia | Cs. | First Floor |
| Czech Republic | Cz. | First Floor |
| Estonia | E. | Lower Ground  |
| Finland | F. | Lower Ground  |
| Finno-Ugrian | F-U. | Lower Ground  |
| General Balkans | Gen.Balk. | Lower Ground  |
| General Baltic | Gen.Balt. | Lower Ground  |
| General Slavonic | Gen.Slav. | Lower Ground  |
| Georgia | Geo. | Lower Ground  |
| German Democratic Republic | GDR. | First Floor |
| Germany | G. | First Floor |
| Greece | Gr. | Lower Ground |
| Hungary | H. | First Floor |
| Ivanyi | Iv. | First Floor |
| Kazakhstan | Kaz. | Lower Ground |
| Kosovo | Gen.Ju.Kos. | Lower Ground |
| Kyrgyzstan | Kyr. | Lower Ground |
| Latvia | La. | Lower Ground |
| Lithuania | Li. | Lower Ground |
| Miscellaneous | Misc. | First Floor |
| Moldova | Mol. | Lower Ground |
| Montenegro | Gen.Ju.Mon. | Lower Ground |
| North Macedonia | Gen.Ju.Mac. | Lower Ground |
| Poland | P. | First Floor |
| Romania | Rou. | Lower Ground |
| Russia | R. | Second Floor |
| Serbia | Gen.Ju.Ser. | Lower Ground |
| Slovakia | Sk. | First Floor |
| Slovenia | Gen.Ju.Slo. | Lower Ground |
| Serbs (Wends) | W. | Lower Ground |
| Tajikistan | Taj. | Lower Ground |
| Turkey | T. | Lower Ground |
| Turkmenistan | Tur. | Lower Ground |
| Ukraine | U. | Second Floor |
| Uzbekistan | Uzb. | Lower Ground |
| Vojvodina | Gen.Ju.Voj. | Lower Ground |
| Yugoslavia | Gen.Ju. | Lower Ground |

The classification then uses Roman numerals (I-XXIV) to indicate different topics. IX, for example, is history, XII politics, XXIV literature.

| Numeral | Topic |
| --- | --- |
|  I |  General (yearbooks, handbooks, etc) |
|  II |  Bibliography |
|  III |  Geography |
|  IV |  Ethnography; demography |
|  V |  Historiography |
|  VI |  Historical source material |
|  VII |  History: auxiliary sciences |
|  VIII |  Prehistory; archaeology; mythology |
|  IX |  History |
|  X |  Government publications; political parties |
|  XI |  Memoirs; diaries; correspondence |
|  XII |  Politics; philosophy |
|  XIII |  Armed forces |
|  XIV |  Law |
|  XV |  Minorities |
|  XVI |  Economics |
|  XVII |  Religion |
|  XVIII |  Intellectual life; education; science and technology |
|  XIX |  Sociology; social history |
|  XX |  Arts (including music, theatre, ballet and cinema) |
|  XXI |  Regions |
|  XXII |  Cities and towns |
|  XXIII |  Language |
|  XXIV  |  Literature |

These 24 sections are sometimes further subdivided numerically and alphabetically, depending on the complexity of the subject. Thus, Russian history is located at R.IX, Polish history at P.IX, Russian history 1921-29 at R.IX.e.4.

The last element of the classification is a three-letter code. This relates to the first three letters of the author's name, or when there is more than one author or editor, the first three letters of the title. A book's classmark or shelfmark will always be found on the inside fly-leaf of the book and usually on the spine.

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