

# Topics in eHRAF



Outline of Cultural Materials

# **CULTURAL TOPICS**

The Outline of Cultural Materials, first developed by G.P. Murdock in the 1940s, is an ethnographic classification system on human behavior, social life and customs, material culture, and human-ecological environments. In the past this indexing system was used in the paper and microfiche versions of the Collection of Ethnography and now the OCM subject thesaurus serves the eHRAF World Cultures and eHRAF Archaeology databases. This brief PDF list includes the major categories and subcategories in the OCM, and you can find detailed descriptions of each OCM at hraf.yale.edu/resources/reference/outline-of-cultural-materials/

# USES

- Finding and comparing cultural topics across languages and times
- Conducting cross-cultural research and hypothesis testing
- · Cataloging field notes
- Cataloging museum collections
- Cataloging multimedia research collections in a comparative crosscultural way

# MORE

 If your institution is not currently a member of HRAF, we provide complimentary 60-day memberships to all higher education institutions across the globe [hraf.yale.edu/ip-trial-2].

The User Guide provide instructions on how the OCM subjects can be used in an Advanced Search in eHRAF World Cultures and eHRAF Archaeology. See more here. http://hraf.yale.edu/help/ The Outline of Cultural Materials (OCM) is a vast subject index of all aspects of cultural and social life. In the eHRAF databases, these subjects have been used to index each and every paragraph in the over 700,000+ pages of ethnographic and archaeological documents, including books, journal articles and dissertations.

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