Subjects

The Outline of Cultural Materials

The Outline of Cultural Materials (OCM) is an ethnographic subject classification system designed to cover all aspects of cultural and social life. It was first developed in the 1930s by George Peter Murdock and colleagues at Yale's Institute of Human Relations and has been revised ever since.

The OCM has been used widely by ethnographers and museums for classifying cultural materials. In the eHRAF databases, these subjects have been used to index each and every paragraph in the over 880,000+ pages of ethnographic and archaeological documents, including monographs, journal articles and dissertations. This facilitates searching across all documents to find precise paragraph-level content, regardless of the language or spelling conventions used by the author.

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 in a comparative, cross-cultural way



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101 Identification

102 Maps

103 Place Names

104 Glossary

105 Cultural Summary

106 Coded Data

107 Diagnostic Material Attributes



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112 Additional Bibliography

113 Information Sources Listed in Other Works

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116 Complete Text of HRAF Documents

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185 Cultural Goals

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- 205 Mail
- 206 Telephone and Telegraph
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- 225 Marine Hunting
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- 235 Poultry Raising
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- 237 Animal By-Products



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- 243 Cereal Agriculture
- 244 Vegetable Production
- 245 Arboriculture
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