

Introduction to Controlled Vocabularies

Terminology for Art, Architecture, and Other Cultural Works

This primer on the characteristics, scope, uses, and methods for building and maintaining controlled vocabularies for art and cultural materials explains how vocabularies should be integrated in cataloging systems; utilized for indexing and retrieval; and structured to group synonyms and arrange concepts into categories.

Available in print and online at this URL:

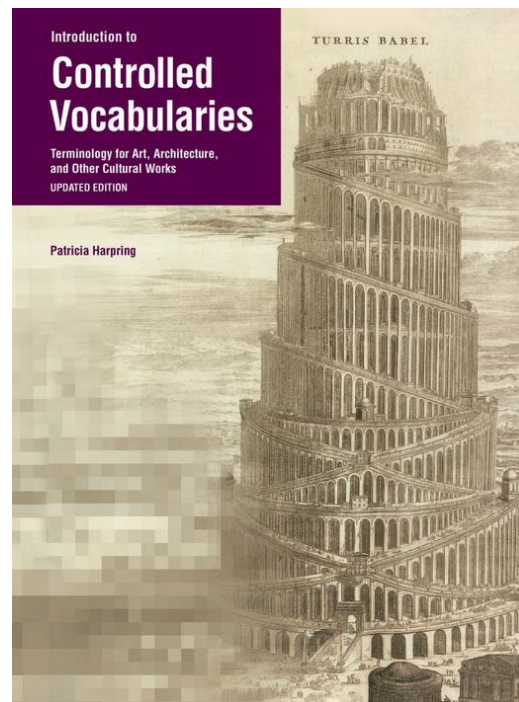
www.getty.edu/research/publications/electronic_publications/intro_controlled_vocab/index.html

Topics include the following:

- Controlled Vocabularies in Context
- What Are Controlled Vocabularies?
- Relationships in Controlled Vocabularies
- Vocabularies for Cultural Objects
- Using Multiple Vocabularies
- Local Authorities
- Constructing a Vocabulary or Authority
- Indexing with Controlled Vocabularies
- Retrieval Using Controlled Vocabularies

Patricia Harpring, Author
Murtha Baca, Series Editor

ISBN 978-1-60606-018-6 (pbk.)
ISBN 978-1-60606-026-1 (PDF)
ISBN 978-1-60606-027-8 (HTML)



A controlled vocabulary is an information tool that contains standardized words and phrases used to refer to ideas, physical characteristics, people, places, events, subject matter, and many other concepts. Controlled vocabularies allow for the categorization, indexing, and retrieval of information. This book deals specifically with controlled vocabularies related to cultural works—products of human creativity that have visual aesthetic expression. Such vocabularies are employed with the ultimate goal of allowing cultural works, images of cultural works, and information about them to be discovered, brought together, and compared for study and appreciation.

The intended audience of this book includes students, academics, and professionals in art museums, art libraries, archives, visual resources collections, and other institutions that catalog the visual arts, architecture, and other cultural works. The audience may include systems developers who support these communities as well as consortia or other groups attempting to compile or use vocabularies for cultural materials. The topics discussed here may also be applicable to disciplines outside the visual arts.



The J. Paul Getty Trust

CC-By J. Paul Getty Trust

www.getty.edu/research/tools/vocabularies/index.html

contact us: vocab@getty.edu
March 2017