

BACKGROUND: *This instruction sheet provides guidelines for assigning the subject headings **Latin America** and **Latin Americans** and for constructing and assigning headings incorporating the adjectives **Latin American** and **Spanish American**.*

1. Latin America. Assign the heading **Latin America** to works dealing collectively with the area and/or countries south of the Rio Grande, as well as all or parts of three or more of the regions that make up Latin America, that is, Mexico, Central America, South America, and the West Indies.

Also assign **Latin America** as the collective geographic heading and subdivision for the Spanish-speaking countries of Latin America.

2. Latin Americans. Assign the heading **Latin Americans** to works dealing collectively with the citizens of Latin American countries. For works limited to Spanish-speaking Latin Americans, use **Spanish Americans (Latin America)**.

Use the heading **Hispanic Americans** for United States citizens of Latin American descent.

3. Latin American. Construct and assign headings incorporating the adjective **Latin American** in accordance with the provisions of H 320 and H 351 to designate origin or occurrence in Latin America. *Examples:*

650 #0 \$a Arts, Latin American.
650 #0 \$a National characteristics, Latin American.
651 #0 \$a United States \$x Foreign public opinion, Latin American.

Use **Latin American** to qualify literary subject headings referring to material relating collectively to the Spanish, Portuguese, English, and/or French-speaking countries of Latin America. *Examples:*

650 #0 \$a Authors, Latin American.
650 #0 \$a Love poetry, Latin American.
650 #0 \$a Latin American fiction.

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4. *Spanish American.* Qualify literary subject headings with the adjective **Spanish American** to refer to material limited to the parts of Latin America where Spanish is the prevailing language. *Examples:*

650 #0 \$a Spanish American poetry.
650 #0 \$a Women authors, Spanish American.
650 #0 \$a Historical fiction, Spanish American.