

Pathfinder for Resources about Dublin Core

Topic: Introduction to Dublin Core for Librarians

Intended Audience: Librarians and information professionals interested in learning the basics about Dublin Core, the Dublin Core Initiative, what it does, who uses it and why.

Purpose: to provide the titles of useful websites, journal articles and books. This list is evaluative, not comprehensive.

Library of Congress Subject Headings:

- Metadata.
- Information organization.
- World Wide Web Subject access.
- Web search engines.

Articles:

Coleman, Anita S. (2005). From Cataloging to Metadata: Dublin Core Records for the Library Catalog, *Cataloging and Classification Quarterly* 40:3/4, 153-181.

Author Coleman outlines an application of Dublin Core (DC) for library cataloging, using sixteen qualified DC elements. For each element she delineates Name, Label, Definition, Comment, Chief Source of Information, Controlled Values (such as Library of Congress Subject Headings for the *subject* element), Inputting Guidelines, and Metadata Creator Notes. An appendix includes a DC metadata creation form, and sample resource descriptions.

Howarth, Lynne C. (2005). Metadata and Bibliographic Control: Soul-Mates or Two Solitudes? *Cataloging and Classification Quarterly* 40:3/4, 37-56.

This article provides a broad perspective on the relationship between metadata and bibliographic control, and their converging trends. In the context of this discussion, the author examines Dublin Core, and shows how principles of bibliographic control have informed metadata schemas (as in the use of DC qualifiers); and how metadata objectives have fostered interoperability among varying bibliographic and metadata formats.

Books:

Caplan, Priscilla. "[Chapter] 8 - The Dublin Core." Metadata Fundamentals for All Librarians. Chicago: American Library Association, 2003. 76-87.

Metadata Fundamentals... is for metadata junkies and techie librarians. In chapter 8, Ms. Caplan gives a short overview of Dublin Core, its background and elements. She then launches into the various syntaxes available to use with DC – HTML, XML, RDF – and provides examples.

White, Chuck, Liam Quin, and Linda Burman. "Chapter 23 - Introducing the Dublin Core." Mastering XML Premium Edition. Alameda, CA: Sybex,

2001. Books24x7, Inc. 2006. Simmons College Libraries, Boston, MA.
31 Mar. 2006 <<http://0-library.books24x7.com.library.simmons.edu/>>.

The authors love Dublin Core, and it shows. Their ease of describing its short but productive history, its elements, and promoting its use to web page creators everywhere bares their appreciation for this simple-to-use metadata.

Web Resources for Dublin Core initiative:

<http://dublincore.org/>

The Dublin Core initiative website provides up-to-date definitive information about The Dublin Core initiative, who are the key participants, when and where are conferences and workshops, what workgroups and projects are on-going. This is the first most important website to learn about and become involved in Dublin Core.

<http://dublincore.org/documents/1999/07/02/dces/>

The Dublin Core Initiative, definitions and descriptions of the data elements. This page provides updated definitions for Dublin Core metadata elements.

<http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/metadata/dcdot/>

The Dublin Core metadata editor is a very cool “metadata miner”. “This service will retrieve a Web page and automatically generate Dublin Core metadata, either as HTML <meta> tags or as RDF/XML, suitable for embedding in the <head>...</head> section of the page. The generated metadata can be edited using the form provided and converted to various other formats (USMARC, SOIF, IAFA/ROADS, TEI headers, GILS, IMS or RDF) if required. Optional, context sensitive, help is available while editing.”

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dublin_Core

Wikipedia provides a delightfully concise and simple description of Dublin core. If you have no idea what it is and how it works, this might be the best, first place to go and not be overwhelmed by information.