How to Read Call Number

At the Augustana Campus Library, physical items are organized according to a system called Library of Congress Classification. Each item in the library is assigned a series of letters and numbers, called a call number, based on its topic. The call number helps you to find a book on the shelf.

1. **Items are organized alphabetically** by the first line. (Example: T14D82006)
2. **Items are organized numerically** by the second line. (Example: TD788H862012)
3. **Items are organized alphabetically and numerically** by the third line. First, read the letter alphabetically. Then, read the number as a decimal. In the above example, .101 is smaller than .86, which is smaller than .9. (Example: TD788H101H862012)
4. **The fourth line is the year of publication.** Different editions of the same book are organized chronologically. (Example: TD788H862003)

Questions? Ask us! augustana.reference@ualberta.ca

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