

Medicine to class 4

**Relocation of Medicine from class 61 to
class 4: The best solution today for the
empty class 4**

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Introduction

- Swedish version of the UDC
- Spanish page for UDC FAQ and main schedules

UDC - Earlier proposals

- A recent master thesis at the school of librarianship in Borås, “*UDC, A Proposal to Basic Class 4*” by Fredrik Hultqvist (Magisteruppsats ; 2006:39) proved the possibility of moving medicine from the section 61 to the empty class 4. This idea is not new. It has been suggested from time to time, but without succeeding until now.

The new revision of Medicine

- We have had the possibility of following the tremendous work of restructuring the class 61 of Medicine. Every year since 1999 parts of the restructuring of Medicine has been published in *Extensions and corrections to the UDC* and the work came to an end in 2006.

Three practical reasons to move Medicine to section 4

- 1) The change of notation 61 with notation 4 does not make the work done for the revision of medicine obsolete; on the contrary, it facilitates the change in libraries as they anyway need to change the notations of the entire discipline, with some exceptions.
- 2) The change from 61 to 4 makes medicine a digit shorter in all the subdivisions.
- 3) The move makes space free in technology, which has been overcrowded.

Theoretical approach

- Only the Dewey system, and therefore the UDC, has Medicine together with other practical technical disciplines in the same section. The other systems have medicine as a main discipline with a division of its own.
- “Medicine” should come after “natural sciences”, close to “Biology”, but not together with engineering.

Some other subdivisions of Medicine

➤ Proposal E&C	The new section	
➤ 61	4	Medicine
➤ 611.5	415	Biophysics of the human organism
➤ 612.1/.3	421/423	The health professions
➤ 612.5	425	Technical procedures, materials and equipments
➤ 613.1/.4	431/434	Health, Hygiene and preventive medicine
➤ 613.5/.9	435/439	Curative medicine
➤ 614.8	448	Surgery
➤ 614.9	449	Systems, schools of therapy. Alternativ medicin
➤ 615.11/.15	451.1/.5	Pathology
➤ 615.64	456.4	Meningitis
➤ 615.8	458	
➤ 615.862	458.62	Diabetes and metabolic disorders
➤ 615.933.241.1	459.332.411	General allergies
➤ 616/619	46/49	Parts, organs, systems of the body
➤ 616.1-51	461-51	Head and neck
➤ 616.9	469	Skin, dermatology, cutaneous system
➤ 617.1/.5	471/475	Cardiovascular system
➤ 617.6/.9	476/479	Nervous system, Neurology
➤ 617.8	478	Central nervous system
➤ 617.9	479	Sense organs and special senses
➤ 618.112	481.12	Endocrine system
➤ 618.2/.5	482/485	Respiratory system
➤ 618.55	485.5	Diaphragm
➤ 619	49	Digestive system. Alimentary system. Nutrition process
➤ 619.1	491	Digestive system
➤ 619.3	493	Dental system. Dentistry. Odontology
➤ 619.321.2	493.212	Dental hygiene

(Source: Extensions & Corrections to the UDC, 1999-2006)

Brevity and mnemonics

- The proposal is also in accordance with two important canons:
- **Brevity** –
- Instead of using a notation and dividing it with a new digit, we create the general class putting together the first and the last number of belonging subclasses.
 - Example: 662.1/.4 with subclasses 662.1
662.2 662.3 662.4
 - Instead of: 662.1 and subclasses 662.11
662.12 662.13 662.14

Brevity and mnemonics

- We even use another way of shortening notations, for instance, using a number for a subject and the continuation of numbers in the same array for subdivisions of that subject.
 - Example: 592 for Invertebrata with subdivisions 593, 594 and 595 instead of 592.3, 592.4 and 592.4.
 - 57(Biology) and subdivisions 58 (Botanic) and 59 (Zoology)
instead of 57, 578 and 579 (or other subdivisions inside 57)
- **Mnemonics** –
- shorter notation is always easier to remember

Psychology

- Another good example of possible change with small relocation problems is the class 159.9 for Psychology, which should benefit of moving to 19 and making the notation two digits shorter, while moving from being in between different philosophical subjects to a place of itself. No other changes are needed within the class to make this arrangement possible.
- Psychology should be separated from Philosophy, instead of being between philosophical sub-subjects.
- The change from 159.9 to 19 don't influence the rest of the schedule.

Another easy practical change

➤ Today	Proposal	
➤ 1	1	Philosophy, Psychology
		Unchanged
➤ 11	11	Metaphysics
➤ 122/129	122/129	Special metaphysics
➤ 13	13	Philosophy of mind and spirit. Metaphysics of spiritual life
➤ 14	14	Philosophical systems and points of view
➤ 16	16	Logic. Epistemology. Theory of knowledge. Methodology of logic
➤ 17	17	Moral philosophy. Ethics. Practical philosophy

Another easy practical change

		Proposed changes
➤	159.9	19 Psychology
➤	159.91	191 Psychophysiology (physiological psychology). Mental physiology
➤	159.92	192 Mental development and capacity. Comparative psychology
➤	159.922.7	192.27 Child psychology. Paedology. Paedopsychology
➤	159.929	192.9 Biopsychology. Comparative psychology
➤	159.93	193 Sensation. Sensory perception
➤	159.95	195 Higher mental processes
➤	159.96	196 Special mental states and processes
➤	159.963	196.3 Sleep and dreams
➤	159.97	197 Abnormal psychology
➤	159.98	198 Applied psychology (psychotechnology)in general

Conclusion

- The best medicine for section 4 is the relocation of Medicine to this section
- Both Philosophy and Psychology benefits from moving 159.9 to 19

All this can be done without too much work and without changing substantially the relation between subjects

Thank you!

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