

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
From: Kathy Glennan, ALA Representative
Subject: Creating instructions for using nominative case for titles (RDA 6.2), names (RDA 8.5), and places (RDA 16.2)

Abstract

Create instructions about using the nominative case when recording the title of a work (RDA 6.2), the name of a person, family, or corporate body (RDA 8.5), and the name of a place (RDA 16.2). Update corresponding instructions at 6.14.1.3, 6.19.1.3, 6.23.1.3, and 6.26.1.3.

Justification

RDA lacks specific instructions about converting genitive or other case forms to the nominative case (sometimes called the subjective or subject case) when determining the title (RDA 6.2), the name of a person, family or corporate body (RDA 8.5), and the name of a place (RDA 16.2). This conversion has generally been the practice for NACO catalogers under AACR2, and subsequently under RDA. It is specifically mentioned in relation to serials in the LC-PCC Policy Statement for 6.27.1.9 (Serials, point #7, in regard to numbering grammatically integrated with the title proper).

Conversion of found forms to the nominative case is based on the principles of Representation (RDA 0.4.3.4) and Common Usage or Practice (RDA 0.4.3.7). Forms of names and titles in the nominative case are usually the commonly known forms. The nominative case, the case that marks the subject, is the dictionary-entry form of nouns and as such is the form most users expect to find when searching.

The RDA Appendices make two mentions of nominative case: A.46.1, Polish proper names and their derivatives; and C.2, Articles listed by Language, Ancient Greek. RDA also makes one mention of genitive case: RDA F.11.2, Czech and Slovak surnames that include an article and/or preposition, which gives explicit instructions for recording a surname that consists of a place name in the genitive case, if it is preceded by “z”. None of these instructions provide any guidance about converting the case forms.

Because this practice has never been instantiated, results vary when catalogers record titles and names according to RDA. To rectify this situation, ALA proposes adding three new sub-instructions. We recognize that converting to the nominative case is not correct in all cases, such as when titles are intended to be read as a complete phrase in a different case, such as the Latin ablative. To address those situations we have added an “unless” clause in each proposed instruction, based on wording present in the Alternative at RDA 6.2.1.7, *Initial Articles*. However, this proposal intentionally does not address the ungrammatical results that can result from dropping initial articles when following that particular Alternative.

Note: the mark-up of the Chapter 6 instructions below takes into account the changes proposed in 6JSC/ALA/30, *Using the mark of omission when recording titles*, using gray highlighting and footnotes.

Summary of proposed changes

1. For titles:
 - Create 6.2.1.11
 - Add “and case” to refer to 6.2.1.11 at:
 - 6.2.1.3
 - 6.14.1.3
 - 6.19.1.3
 - 6.23.1.3
 - 6.26.1.3
2. For persons, families and corporate bodies:
 - Create 8.5.8
 - Update 8.5.1 to refer to 8.5.8
3. For place names:
 - Add new paragraph and examples in 16.2.1.3

Impact

Because this proposal seeks to codify current practices, the impact should be minimal on catalogers but should increase consistency in recording the affected elements.

Proposal

Marked-up copy

1. Title

6.2 Title of the Work

CORE ELEMENT

Preferred title for the work is a core element. Variant titles for the work are optional.

...

6.2.1.3 General Guidelines on Recording Titles of Works

When recording a title of a work, apply the guidelines on capitalization, numbers, diacritical marks, initial articles, spacing of initials and acronyms, abbreviations, **and**

varying words¹, and case at 6.2.1.4–6.2.1.9-11. When those guidelines refer to an appendix, apply the additional instructions in that appendix, as applicable.

...

6.2.1.10 Varying Words in Titles of Works Issued as Multipart Monographs or as Serials²

6.2.1.11 Case

When recording a title for a work in a language that has case endings or other inflected forms, record the title in the nominative case, unless the title is to be accessed under a different case (e.g., ablative, elative).

EXAMPLE

Aeneis

Title embedded in another title as: Adnotationes ad Vergilii Aeneidem

Der Zauberberg

Title embedded in another title as: Thomas Mann: Einführung in den Zauberberg für Studenten der Universität Princeton

but

Deo volente

not Deus volens

Suomesta

not Suomi

...

6.14.1.3 General Guidelines on Recording Titles of Musical Works

When recording a title of a musical work, apply the guidelines on capitalization, numbers, diacritical marks, initial articles, spacing of initials and acronyms, abbreviations, and varying words³, and case at 6.2.1. When those guidelines refer to an appendix, apply the additional instructions in that appendix, as applicable.

...

6.19.1.3 General Guidelines on Recording Titles of Legal Works

When recording a title of a legal work, apply the guidelines on capitalization, numbers, diacritical marks, initial articles, spacing of initials and acronyms, abbreviations, and

¹ Proposed in 6JSC/ALA/30.

² Proposed in 6JSC/ALA/30.

³ Proposed in 6JSC/ALA/30.

varying words⁴, and case at 6.2.1. When those guidelines refer to an appendix, apply the additional instructions in that appendix, as applicable.

...

6.23.1.3 General Guidelines on Recording Titles of Religious Works

When recording a title of a religious work, apply the guidelines on capitalization, numbers, diacritical marks, initial articles, spacing of initials and acronyms abbreviations, ~~and~~-varying words⁵, and case at 6.2.1. When those guidelines refer to an appendix, apply the additional instructions in that appendix, as applicable.

...

6.26.1.3 General Guidelines on Recording Titles of Official Communications

When recording a title of an official communication, apply the guidelines on capitalization, numbers, diacritical marks, initial articles, spacing of initials and acronyms abbreviations, ~~and~~-varying words⁶, and case at 6.2.1. When those guidelines refer to an appendix, apply the additional instructions in that appendix, as applicable.

2. Person, Family, or Corporate Body

8.5 General Guidelines on Recording Names

8.5.1 General Guidelines

When recording a name, apply the following general guidelines:

- capitalization (see 8.5.2)
- numbers expressed as numerals or as words (see 8.5.3)
- accents and other diacritical marks (see 8.5.4)
- hyphens (see 8.5.5)
- spacing of initials and acronyms (see 8.5.6)
- abbreviations (see 8.5.7)-
- case (see 8.5.8).

When those guidelines refer to an appendix, apply the additional instructions in that appendix, as applicable.

...

⁴ Proposed in 6JSC/ALA/30.

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8.5.8 Case

When recording a name in a language that has case endings or other inflected forms, record the name in the nominative case, unless the name is to be accessed under a different case (e.g., genitive, ablative).

EXAMPLE

P. Vergilius Maro

Name appears as: P. Vergili Maronis

Deutsche Morgenländische Gesellschaft

Name appears as: Mit Unterstützung der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft

but

Simpson's

not Simpson

Name of a tavern

Deo Juvante

not Deus Juvans

Name of a musical group

3. Place

16.2 Name of the Place

...

16.2.1.3 General Guidelines on Recording Names of Places

Record the name of a place in the form found in the source from which the name is taken, unless the instructions at **16.2.2.8–16.2.2.13** indicate otherwise.

When recording the name of a place in a language that has case endings or other inflected forms, record the name in the nominative case, unless the name is to be accessed under a different case (e.g., genitive, locative).

EXAMPLE

Москва

Name appears as: в Москве

Alexandria

Name appears as: Alexandriae

Rīga

Name appears as: Rīgas

Praha

Name appears as: v Praze

but

St. David's
not St. David

Robinson's
not Robinson

Clean copy

1. Title

6.2 Title of the Work

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Preferred title for the work is a core element. Variant titles for the work are optional.

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6.2.1.3 General Guidelines on Recording Titles of Works

When recording a title of a work, apply the guidelines on capitalization, numbers, diacritical marks, initial articles, spacing of initials and acronyms, abbreviations, varying words, and case at **6.2.1.4–6.2.1.11**. When those guidelines refer to an appendix, apply the additional instructions in that appendix, as applicable.

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6.2.1.11 Case

When recording a title for a work in a language that has case endings or other inflected forms, record the title in the nominative case, unless the title is to be accessed under a different case (e.g., ablative, elative).

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When recording a title of a musical work, apply the guidelines on capitalization, numbers, diacritical marks, initial articles, spacing of initials and acronyms, abbreviations, varying words, and case at 6.2.1. When those guidelines refer to an appendix, apply the additional instructions in that appendix, as applicable.

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6.19.1.3 General Guidelines on Recording Titles of Legal Works

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6.26.1.3 General Guidelines on Recording Titles of Official Communications

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spacing of initials and acronyms (see [8.5.6](#))
abbreviations (see [8.5.7](#))
case (see [8.5.8](#)).

When those guidelines refer to an appendix, apply the additional instructions in that appendix, as applicable.

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When recording a name in a language that has case endings or other inflected forms, record the name in the nominative case, unless the name is to be accessed under a different case (e.g., genitive, ablative).

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Name appears as: в Москве

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