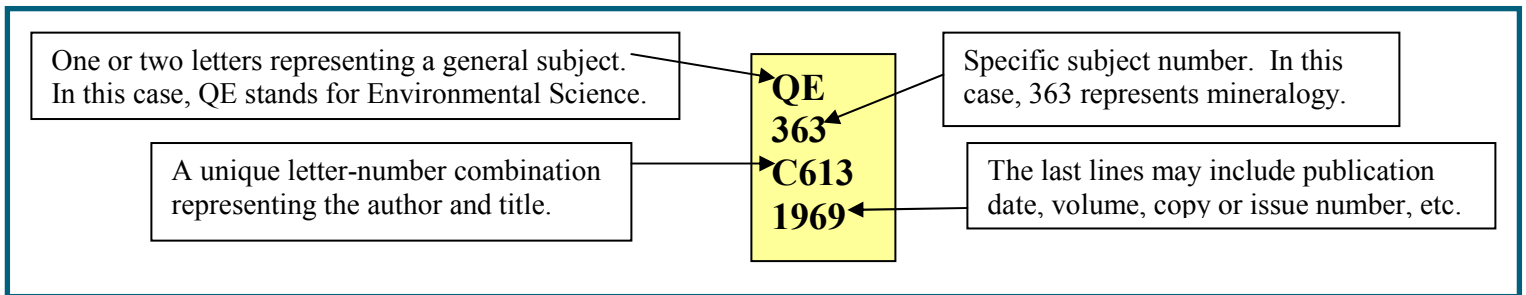


# Guide to Finding Books in the Library's General Collection

- Maxwell Library uses the **Library of Congress system of classification**.
- This system is used to organize books on our shelves by subject.
- Library of Congress call numbers are combinations of letters and numbers; they always start with a letter.
- Call numbers A-L are on the second floor; call numbers M-Z are on the third floor.
- A sample call number looks like this: QE363.C613 1969

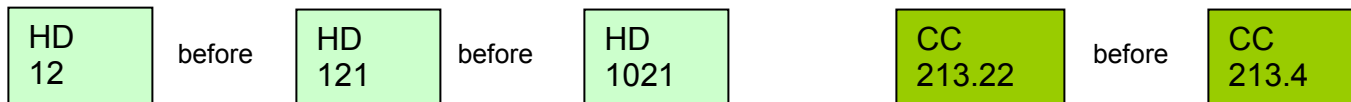


## Reading Call Numbers

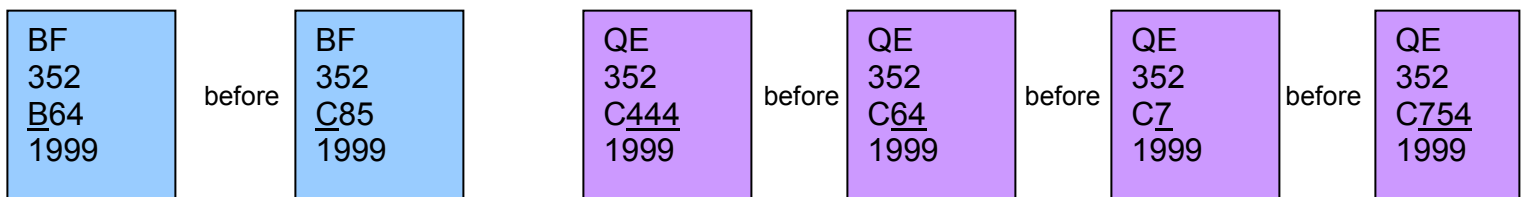
First line: The first part of a call number is one, two, or rarely three letters. Read these alphabetically: A before B before C, etc. QA before QE before QL, etc.



Second line: The second part is a whole number ranging from 1 to 9999. Smaller numbers come before larger numbers. These numbers can also be decimal numbers, such as 213.22.



Third line: The third part can be the trickiest. This part starts with a letter, followed by a number. Read the letters alphabetically, and read the numbers as decimal numbers.



Final lines: May include dates, volume/issue #'s, copy #'s, etc., and are read last.