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

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One or two letters representing a general subject. In this case, QE stands for Environmental Science.

Specific subject number. In this case, 363 represents mineralogy.

A unique letter-number combination representing the author and title.

The last lines may include publication date, volume, copy or issue number, etc.

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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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>Q</th>
<th>QA</th>
<th>QD</th>
<th>QE</th>
<th>QL</th>
<th>Z</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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.

| HD 12 | before | HD 121 | before | HD 1021 | CC 213.22 | before | CC 213.4 |

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.

| BF 352 B64 1999 | before | BF 352 C85 1999 | before | QE 352 C444 1999 | before | QE 352 C64 1999 | before | QE 352 C7 1999 | before | QE 352 C754 1999 | before |

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