Don’t worry! With this handy guide, you’ll soon be crushing your term papers, seeing your research driven before you, and hearing the lamentations of your jealous classmates.

The Dewey Decimal System is arranged around ten broad classes:

000: Computers and Information
100: Philosophy and Psychology
200: Religion
300: The Social Sciences
400: Language
500: Natural Sciences and Mathematics
600: Technology
700: Arts and Recreation
800: Literature
900: History and Geography

Each of these classes has further subdivisions, but the most important thing to know is that the books are arranged numerically on the shelves!

Every book has a “call number” printed on the spine and listed in the catalog.

Dewey classification number. Represents the book’s subject.

Cutter number. Represents the author’s name.