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Selecting German-language Material for Academic Libraries: A Workshop

"European Links": WESS Preconference, San Francisco, June 26–27, 1997

Note: This is an html copy of the workshop handout. Other pages presented during the workshop (and available online at this site) link to its various parts. It can also be used (and searched, using Netscape "Find") independently, especially to locate names in the [lists of publishers](#) or words and abbreviations in the [glossary of German publishing and booktrade terms](#).

Here's an exercise: Use Netscape's "Find" feature, for example, to look up the German abbreviation "Hrsg." or the binding type "kartoniert".

 [Return](#) to WESS Workshop Homepage (1997)

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I. A German Publisher Typology

The *Adreßbuch für den deutschsprachigen Buchhandel 1995/1996* lists 14,000 firms and other entities that "produce books." Of these, however, only 2,066 are actually known to the German tax authorities as "publishers" with annual sales of DM 25,000 or more.

Publishers in Germany are divided into categories depending on the nature of their production, whereby publishers of each group often have their own associations. The main publisher types (with several representative publishers listed) are:

- Art publishers (Kunstverlage), e.g. Dumont
- Cartographic publishers (kartographische Verlage), e.g. Mairs, RV, Westermann
- Children's book publishers (Kinder- und Jugendbuchverlage), e.g. Oetinger, Thienemann
- Dictionary & encyclopedia publishers (Lexikonverlage), e.g. Brockhaus, Langenscheidt
- Legal & governmental publishers (rechts- und staatswissenschaftliche Verlage), e.g. Heymann, Festland
- Literary and non-fiction publishers (literarische und Sachbuchverlage), e.g. Hanser, Insel, Metzler
- Music publishers (Musikverlage), e.g. Schott, Bärenreiter
- Paperback publishers (Heftromanverlage), e.g. Heyne, Rowohlt, Fischer
- Periodical and magazine publishers (Zeitschriftenverlage), e.g. Springer, Grüner & Jahr
- Reference book publishers (Lexikonverlage), Saur, Klostermann
- Religious and denominational publishers (konfessionelle Verlage), e.g. Herder
- School book publishers (Schulbuchverlage), e.g. Klett, Diesterweg
- Small publishers (Kleinverlage), e.g. Rimbaud, Eichborn
- Theatre publishers (Theaterverlage)
- Travel guide publishers (Reiseführerverlage), e.g. Grieben, Polyglott

II. Representative Publishers of Interest to US Academic Libraries

The following is a non-exclusive, non-exhaustive list of publishers who are noted for their publications in the areas listed. (Note that absence from this list should not be taken as a suggestion of any shortcomings.) The list freely mixes publishers from the former GDR, Switzerland, and Austria with established publishers from western Germany.

Literary Publishers

Ammann (Zürich)
Aufbau (Berlin)
Deuticke (Vienna)
Deutsche Verlags-Anstalt (Stuttgart)
Diogenes (Zürich)
Fischer, S. (Frankfurt a.M.)
Haffmans (Zürich)
Hanser (Munich)
Haymon (Innsbruck)
Hoffmann & Campe (Hamburg)
Insel (Frankfurt a.M.)
Kiepenheuer, G. (Leipzig)
Kiepenheuer & Witsch (Cologne)
Klett-Cotta (Stuttgart)
Luchterhand (Munich, orig. Neuwied)
Mitteldeutscher Verlag (Halle)
Nagel & Kimche (Zürich)
Reclam (Leipzig)
Residenz (Salzburg)
Rotbuch (Hamburg)
Rowohlt (Reinbek b. Hamburg)
Steidl (Göttingen)
Stroemfeld/Roter Stern (Basel/Frankfurt a.M.)
Suhrkamp (Frankfurt a.M.)
Wagenbach (Berlin)

Bibliographies, Reference Works, Dictionaries

Brockhaus (Mannheim)
Cicero (Morsum/Sylt)
Dietrich (Osnabrück)
Duden (Mannheim)
Hiersemann (Stuttgart)
Klostermann, Vittorio (Frankfurt a.M.)
Kröner (Stuttgart)
Saur, K.G. (Munich)
Stamm (Essen)

Academic/Scholarly Publishers

Akademische Druck- u. Verlagsanstalt (Graz)
Beck (Munich)
Böhlau (Weimar, Cologne, Vienna)
Fink (Munich)

Frommann-Holzboog (Stuttgart)
 Harrassowitz (Wiesbaden)
 Iudicium (Munich)
 Kohlhammer (Stuttgart)
 Königshausen & Neumann (Würzburg)
 Metzler (Stuttgart)
 Mouton de Gruyter (Berlin)
 Narr, G. (Tübingen)
 Niemeyer (Tübingen)
 Olms (Hildesheim)
 Reichert (Wiesbaden)
 Reineke (Greifswald)
 Schmidt, Erich (Berlin)
 Schöningh (Paderborn)
 Styria (Graz)
 Suhrkamp (Frankfurt a.M.)
 Vandenhoeck (Göttingen)

Academic Paperback Publishers

dtv, Fischer, Reclam (Stuttgart), Suhrkamp, UTB, and many others

Dissertation Publishers

Fink (Munich)
 Lang, Peter (Frankfurt a.M., Bern, NY, etc.)
 Königshausen & Neumann (Würzburg)
 Winter, C. (Heidelberg)

Microfilm/Reprint Publishers

Olms-Wiedmann (Hildesheim)
 Saur (Munich)

III. A Brief Glossary of German Book Terms

Note: If you don't find the term you are looking for below, try the [LEO German-English Dictionary](#) or the more specialized ["Bibliotheks-Glossar"](#) at Universität Göttingen.

Many of these words have different meanings outside the context of publishing and the booktrade: these other meanings are excluded here. Common abbreviations are in square brackets. The list includes a number of German computing terms encountered in Internet/CD-ROM environments. For more help with computing terms, go to Langenscheidt's [German Internet Dictionary](#).

Abbildung [Abb.]	Illustration
Ankündigung	Announcement
Auflage [Aufl.]	Imprint, printing
Auftrag von, im	on behalf of, for

Ausgabe [Ausg.] (Erstausgabe, Originalausgabe)	edition (first ed., original ed.)
Auslieferung	(publisher's) warehouse
Ausstellung	exhibit
Auswahl, ausgewählt	selection, selected
Band (Bände) [Bd., Bde.]	volume (volumes)
Bericht (Berichte)	report (reports)
Besprechung, Rezension	review
Bestellung (Bestellnummer)	order (order number)
Börsenverein	the association of German publishers and booksellers
Buchhandel, Buchhandlung, Buchhändler	book trade, book store, bookseller
Datenbank, Datei	database
Datenverarbeitung [EDV]	data processing, computing
Dichtung	poetry (or more broadly: belles lettres)
Druck (Drucker)	print (printer)
Druck, im	in press
Einband	binding
Einführung, Einleitung	introduction
Eingabe	data entry
Ergänzungsband	supplement
Erscheinungsjahr, Erscheinungsdatum, Erscheinungsort	year, date, or place of publication
Exemplar [Ex.]	copy of a book, journal
Fach- (e.g. Fachbibliographie, Fachzeitschrift)	subject-specific, professional, specialist (e.g. specialist bibliography, journal)
Fachreferent	subject specialist
Festschrift	festschrift ("A volume of learned articles or essays by colleagues and admirers, serving as a

	tribute or memorial especially to a scholar"- - <i>American Heritage Dictionary</i>)
Forschung	research
Fortsetzung	continuation (of a work)
Gedicht (Gedichte)	poem (poems, poetry)
gebunden [geb.]	hardbound
gesammelt	collected
gesamt, e.g. Gesamtausgabe	entire, complete (complete edition)
Gesellschaft	(learned) society
Grossist, Sortimenter	wholesaler
Habilitationschrift (often shortened to "Habilschrift")	inaugural dissertation (=always more than a usual dissertation!)
Heft	pamphlet, issue (of a journal), notebook
Herausgeber [Hrsg., Hg.]	editor, compiler (both personal <i>and</i> corporate)
Hochschulschrift	university publication (e.g. dissertation)
Impressum	imprint information
Inhalt, Inhaltsverzeichnis	content, table of contents
Jahrgang [Jg.]	volume (of a journal)
kartoniert [kart., kt.]	in boards
kostenlos	free-of-charge
Leinen [Ln.]	clothbound
Lektor, Lektorat	editor (in a publishing house), editorial office
Lexikon	dictionary, encyclopedia
lieferbar	in print
Literaturverzeichnis	bibliography
Loseblatt	loose-leaf
Messe	trade fair
Nachdruck	reprint

Nachschlagewerk	reference book
Nachtrag	supplement
Nebeneintrag [NE]	added entry
Nebentitel, Untertitel	subtitle
Neudruck [Neudr.]	reprint, reimpression, reissue
Neuerscheinung, Novität	new title (in publishing program)
Ort, Erscheinungsort	place (of publication)
Querverweis	cross-reference
Recherche, Suche, Suchanfrage	(computer) search
Rechnung	invoice
Redaktion (Redakteur)	editing, the editorial side (editor)
Referat	paper or report presented at a conference
Register	index
Rezension, Rezensent (=Besprechung)	review, reviewer
Sachgruppe [SG]	class, classification
Sachliteratur (Sachbuch)	non-fiction (work of non-fiction)
Sachregister	subject index
Sammelband, Anthologie	collection (of stories, essays)
Sammlung	collection, e.g. part of a library
Schlagwort [SW]	subject heading
Schrift(en)	publication(s) (=published work)
Seite [S.]	page
Serie, Reihe	series
Sitzung (Sitzungsberichte)	meeting, session (proceedings)
Sonderdruck	offprint, special printing
Stichwort	keyword
Stiftung	foundation

Studie (Studienreihe)	study (studies in . . .)
Suche, Recherche, Suchanfrage	(computer) search
Suchmaske	search data entry screen (search interface)
Tagung, Tagungsbericht	conference, conference report/proceedings
Taschenbuch [TB]	paperback
Treffer	"hits" (computer search)
Übersetzung (Übersetzer)	translation (translator)
Umfang	number of pages
Umschlag	(dust) jacket, wrapper
ungekürzt	unabridged
unverändert	unchanged (as of a new edition)
verbessert [verb.]	revised, corrected
Verbund, Bibliotheksverbund (Verbundkatalog)	consortium (union catalog)
Vereinigung	association
Verfasser	author
vergriffen	out of print
Verlag, Verleger	publisher
Verzeichnis	list
vierteljährlich	quarterly
vollständig	complete
voraussichtlich	expected (to be published)
Vorschau	preview
Vorwort	preface, foreword
Werk	work, oeuvre
Zeitschrift	periodical
zugleich [zugl.]	at the same time, also

IV. Key Internet Addresses for German Selectors

Note: The following addresses are valid as of the date of the workshop, as is the description of their content. For the most current information concerning URL changes, use a WWW search engine, e.g. Alta Vista, or contact the organization that maintains the site.

WESSWeb: <http://www.lib.virginia.edu/wess/>

WESS's homepage links to a universe of information for Western European selectors and is regularly updated.

Reference Reviews Europe: <http://www.rre.casalini.it/>

This site provides access to reviews of over 1000 contemporary reference works, the majority of them German. New reviews are posted quarterly. The basis for these reviews is the German review publication *Informationsmittel für Bibliotheken*, which is also available online at: http://www.swbv.uni-konstanz.de/depot/i_menu/3421308w.html

Die Deutsche Bibliothek's new Z39.50 Gateway: <http://www.ddb.de/>

Provides access not only to the ILTIS database of Die Deutsche Bibliothek, but also provides links to other major library OPACS in Germany (Berlin, Munich, Göttingen), the rest of Europe, and to North America (Library of Congress). ILTIS combines DNB with complete retrospective holdings information of depository collections of the DDB. Problems: sometimes unavailable or slow; limited by postwar scope of the DDB's collecting mandate.

Bibliotheks-Verbund Bayern: <http://www-opac.bib-bvb.de/>

Germany's "other" national library is the Bavarian State Library/Bayerische Staatsbibliothek in Munich, whose holdings are included in this new online catalog linking all major Bavarian research libraries. Unlike the DDB, the BVB provides access to rich historical collections, though by no means covering the Staatsbibliothek's extraordinary collections comprehensively.

Buch + Medien Online: <http://www.buchhandel.de/>

Principally of interest in our context for the *Verzeichnis lieferbarer Bücher*: 750,000 titles in print from 14,000 German publishers. But there is also access to an extraordinary wealth of other resources, including German printed music in print, the German periodicals database, as well as to the publishers, booksellers, and antiquarians databases of the Börsenverein. Finally, the heavily illustrated electronic magazine *BuchJournal Online* at this site is a very trendy look at what's happening in German publishing—try reading it without state-of-the-art equipment for the full effect.

Harrassowitz New Monographs Database: <http://www.harrassowitz.de/>

An excellent source of new books information even without an account and password for Otto, the new Harrassowitz online system. The New Monographs database can be tailored to specific subject areas, publishers, and date ranges, and can effectively replace the tedious review of notification slips.

German Antiquarian Association/Verband Deutscher Antiquare e.V.: <http://www.antiquare.de/>

Still a rudimentary site, not nearly as developed as the directory available through the "Buchhandel" site mentioned just above, but it is likely to grow over time. One exciting feature is the "Katalogsuche" function, allowing search of specific OP titles.

KNO Koch, Neff & Oetinger & Co. GmbH, Stuttgart: http://www.buchkatalog.de/home_e.htm

Major German book wholesaler has its entire catalog of over 275,000 titles available for online search, with all pages in English. A useful reference and collection development tool regardless how you ultimately choose to obtain your books.

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