How are EBSCO's disciplines selected and assigned?

The disciplines selected for inclusion in EBSCO Discovery Service's Discipline Limited Searching (DLS) were derived from several controlled vocabularies and leverage EBSCO's existing thesauri. The goal in creating the list was to make sure the discipline set covered a wide spectrum of topics, yet with an eye toward distinctness. Several factors were considered including:

- number of articles, titles, and databases that would be indexed with each discipline
- the number of vocabularies that include the discipline
- the level of indexing depth associated with the discipline

The list is non-hierarchical, some disciplines may be narrower in focus than others, but all of them represent distinct academic or professional fields with a large amount of content available. Each discipline acts as an umbrella term under which narrower subjects are organized. These subjects are used to further refine search results within a discipline but can appear in more than one discipline.

Disciplines have been indexed at the database level, in addition to utilizing BISAC headings and call numbers for EBSCO eBooks and library catalogs, respectively.

Disciplines:

- Agriculture & Agribusiness
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Anthropology
- Applied Sciences
- Architecture
- Arts & Entertainment
- Astronomy & Astrophysics
- Biography
- Biology
- Biotechnology
- Botany
- Business & Management
- Chemistry
- Communication & Mass Media
- Complementary & Alternative Medicine
- Computer Science
- Construction & Building
- Consumer Health
• Dance
• Dentistry
• Diplomacy & International Relations
• Drama & Theater Arts
• Earth & Atmospheric Sciences
• Economics
• Education
• Engineering
• Environmental Sciences
• Ethnic & Cultural Studies
• Film
• Forestry
• Geography & Cartography
• Geology
• Health & Medicine
• History
• Information Technology
• Language & Linguistics
• Law
• Library & Information Science
• Life Sciences
• Literature & Writing
• Marketing
• Mathematics
• Military History & Science
• Mining & Mineral Resources
• Music
• Nursing & Allied Health
• Nutrition & Dietetics
• Oceanography
• Pharmacy & Pharmacology
• Physical Therapy & Occupational Therapy
• Physics
• Political Science
• Politics & Government
• Power & Energy
• Psychology
• Public Health
• Religion & Philosophy
• Science
• Social Sciences & Humanities
• Social Work
• Sociology
• Sports & Leisure
• Sports Medicine
• Technology
• Veterinary Medicine
• Visual Arts
• Women's Studies & Feminism
• Zoology