

## Dublin Core Metadata Elements: summary version

Sources: <http://purl.org/dc/education/index.htm> <http://purl.org/dc/documents/rec-dces-19990702.htm>

- A. ELEMENTS: A summary of the Dublin Core elements**
- 1. Element: Title**  
Name: Title  
Identifier: Title  
**Definition:** A name given to the resource.  
Comment: Typically, a Title will be a name by which the resource is formally known.  
**Sample:** <meta name = "DC.Title" content = "Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon contamination">
  - 2. Element: Creator**  
Name: Creator  
Identifier: Creator  
**Definition:** An entity primarily responsible for making the content of the resource.  
Comment: Examples of a Creator include a person, an organisation, or a service. Typically, the name of a Creator should be used to indicate the entity.  
**Sample:** <meta name = "DC.Creator" content = "van Gogh, Vincent">
  - 3. Element: Subject**  
Name: Subject and Keywords  
Identifier: Subject  
**Definition:** The topic of the content of the resource.  
Comment: Typically, a Subject will be expressed as keywords, key phrases or classification codes that describe a topic of the resource. Recommended best practice is to select a value from a controlled vocabulary or formal classification scheme.  
**Sample:** <meta name = "DC.Subject" content = "heart attack">
  - 4. Element: Description**  
Name: Description  
Identifier: Description  
**Definition:** An account of the content of the resource.  
Comment: Description may include but is not limited to: an abstract, table of contents, reference to a graphical representation of content or a free-text account of the content.  
**Sample:** <meta name = "DC.Description" content = "Seated family of five, coconut trees to the left, sailboats moored off sandy beach to the right, with volcano in the background.">
  - 5. Element: Publisher**  
Name: Publisher  
Identifier: Publisher  
**Definition:** An entity responsible for making the resource available  
Comment: Examples of a Publisher include a person, an organisation, or a service. Typically, the name of a Publisher should be used to indicate the entity.  
**Sample:** <meta name = "DC.Publisher" content = "Digital Equipment Corporation">

6. **Element:** **Contributor**  
**Name:** Contributor  
**Identifier:** Contributor  
**Definition:** **An entity responsible for making contributions to the content of the resource.**  
**Comment:** Examples of a Contributor include a person, an organisation, or a service. Typically, the name of a Contributor should be used to indicate the entity.  
**Sample:** `<meta name = "DC.Contributor" content = "Sendak, Maurice">`
7. **Element:** **Date**  
**Name:** Date  
**Identifier:** Date  
**Definition:** **A date associated with an event in the life cycle of the resource.**  
**Comment:** Typically, Date will be associated with the creation or availability of the resource. Recommended best practice for encoding the date value is defined in a profile of ISO 8601 [W3CDTF] and follows the YYYY-MM-DD format.  
**Sample:** `<meta name = "DC.Date" scheme = "WTN8601" content = "1998-05-14">`
8. **Element:** **Type**  
**Name:** Resource Type  
**Identifier:** Type  
**Definition:** **The nature or genre of the content of the resource.**  
**Comment:** Type includes terms describing general categories, functions, genres, or aggregation levels for content. **Recommended best practice is to select a value from a controlled vocabulary** (for example, the working draft list of Dublin Core Types [DCT1]). To describe the physical or digital manifestation of the resource, use the FORMAT element.  
**Sample:** `<meta name = "DC.Type" content = "interactive video game">`
9. **Element:** **Format**  
**Name:** Format  
**Identifier:** Format  
**Definition:** **The physical or digital manifestation of the resource.**  
**Comment:** Typically, Format may include the media-type or dimensions of the resource. Format may be used to determine the software, hardware or other equipment needed to display or operate the resource. Examples of dimensions include size and duration. **Recommended best practice is to select a value from a controlled vocabulary** (for example, the list of Internet Media Types [MIME] defining computer media formats).  
**Sample:** `<meta name = "DC.Format" content = "video/mpeg; 14 minutes">`
10. **Element:** **Identifier**  
**Name:** Resource Identifier  
**Identifier:** Identifier  
**Definition:** **An unambiguous reference to the resource within a given context.**  
**Comment:** Recommended best practice is to identify the resource by means of a string or number conforming to a formal identification system. Example formal identification systems include the Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) (including the Uniform Resource Locator (URL)), the Digital Object Identifier (DOI) and the International Standard Book Number (ISBN).  
**Sample:** `<meta name = "DC.Identifier" content = "http://foo.bar.org/zaf">`

11. **Element:** **Source**  
**Name:** Source  
**Identifier:** Source  
**Definition:** **A Reference to a resource from which the present resource is derived.**  
**Comment:** The present resource may be derived from the Source resource in whole or in part. Recommended best practice is to reference the resource by means of a string or number conforming to a formal identification system.  
**Sample:** `<meta name = "DC.Source" content = "http://a.b.org/manon/">`
12. **Element:** **Language**  
**Name:** Language  
**Identifier:** Language  
**Definition:** **A language of the intellectual content of the resource.**  
**Comment:** Recommended best practice for the values of the Language element is defined by RFC 1766 [RFC1766] which includes a two-letter Language Code (taken from the ISO 639 standard [ISO639]), followed optionally, by a two-letter Country Code (taken from the ISO 3166 standard [ISO3166]). For example, 'en' for English, 'fr' for French, or 'en-uk' for English used in the United Kingdom.  
**Sample:** `<meta name = "DC.Language" content = "en">`
13. **Element:** **Relation**  
**Name:** Relation  
**Identifier:** Relation  
**Definition:** **A reference to a related resource.**  
**Comment:** Recommended best practice is to reference the resource by means of a string or number conforming to a formal identification system.  
**Sample:** `<meta name = "DC.Relation" content = "Shakespeare's Othello ">`
14. **Element:** **Coverage**  
**Name:** Coverage  
**Identifier:** Coverage  
**Definition:** **The extent or scope of the content of the resource.**  
**Comment:** Coverage will typically include spatial location (a place name or geographic coordinates), temporal period (a period label, date, or date range) or jurisdiction (such as a named administrative entity). Recommended best practice is to select a value from a controlled vocabulary (for example, the Thesaurus of Geographic Names [TGN]) and that, where appropriate, named places or time periods be used in preference to numeric identifiers such as sets of coordinates or date ranges.  
**Sample:** `<meta name = "DC.Coverage" content = "Columbus, Ohio, USA;  
Lat: 39 57 N Long: 082 59 W">`
15. **Element:** **Rights**  
**Name:** Rights Management  
**Identifier:** Rights  
**Definition:** **Information about rights held in and over the resource.**  
**Comment:** Typically, a Rights element will contain a rights management statement for the resource, or reference a service providing such information. Rights information often encompasses Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), Copyright, and various Property Rights. If the Rights element is absent, no assumptions can be made about the status of these and other rights with respect to the resource.  
**Sample:** `<meta name = "DC.Rights" content = "Copyright Acme 1999  
- All rights reserved.">`