

# A CRITICAL DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL & COMPARATIVE LIBRARIANSHIP THEORY

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**Let's build theory together to empower library relationships across the world!**



Internal

External

The environment in which we live, observe and experience the world.

**Relationship between International Librarianship and Comparative Librarianship** (Lor 2011)

- Hierarchical: comparative librarianship is a branch of the genus international librarianship or vice versa
- Study Activity: comparative librarianship is the scientific study, while international librarianship is the field of professional activity
- Subject Methodology: international librarianship is the subject while comparative librarianship is the methodology

**Common Approaches for International Librarianship** (Lor 2011)

- International dimensions through common library activities, such as participating on a library, collecting world published abstracts, inventory lists, or revealing library instructional materials into our institutional repositories under Creative Commons licenses
- Offering goods, services, and funds into a target region (charitable projects)
- Development of libraries and librarianship in one or more countries other than our own

**Definition of Librarianship** (Lor 2011)

- Books are for use
- Every reader their books
- Every book its reader
- Save the time of the reader
- The library is a growing organism

**Criteria for Model** (Lor 2011)

- is a model
- is a good model
- is a model
- is a model
- is a model
- is a model
- is a model
- is a model
- is a model
- is a model

**Criteria for a Satisfactory Comparative Study** (Lor 2011)

- The phenomena being investigated must have a fundamental similarity—they may not be wholly different
- The phenomena may not be completely identical
- There must be absolute clarity concerning which particular characteristics that is aspects of libraries are being considered, and you require careful administration and definition
- There must be development and analysis of the similarities and differences among the various elements being compared
- There must be explanation of the differences

**Aims, Purposes, and Values of Comparative Studies** (Lor 2011)

- To discover and explain the differences in analogous library situations in two or more countries
- To study available data concerning the development and status of the library systems of selected countries, and their library activities
- To relate such development and status to historical, social, economic, political, geographic, and other pertinent factors
- To contribute to the analysis and synthesis of library problems
- To assist in library planning
- To provide information useful in "foreign" work and study assignments
- To strengthen the concept of library education programs
- To gain perspectives on, and better understanding of, one's own national library system and problems
- To assist in the development of data and techniques for the comparative study of library systems and problems
- To assist in the establishment of better international understanding and co-operation in library development
- To indicate needed goals for further development and research in these and related fields

**Method** (Lor 2011)

Product: Definition and formulation of a working hypothesis

Process: Observation, recording and interpretation of data by means of which the hypothesis is tested and confirmed or rejected

Method: The method used in the study, which may be a historical method, a comparative method, or a combination of the two

**Aspects of Comparative Librarianship** (Lor 2011)

Comparative librarianship can be understood within a larger context of comparative studies, which are based on the comparison of two or more phenomena in order to discover their similarities and differences

**Activities in Comparative Librarianship** (Lor 2011)

- Comparative librarianship is a field of activity, the activities are conducted in relationship among its branches
- Individuals at various levels, ranging from individuals to governments, and these parties are located in two or more nations (countries)