Call Numbers

Two systems used in US:

DEWEY Decimal System
- Used mostly in public libraries
- (George Peabody Library uses it)
- Divides knowledge into 10 classes, with further subdivision.
  Languages: 400
  Literature: 800

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS (LC)
- Used mostly in research and academic libraries
- 21 major divisions (letters of the alphabet, except I, O, W, X, Y).
- More flexible than Dewey.
- In almost all libraries, you will find a map of the physical building linked to call numbers letters.

EXAMPLE of LC call number in Italian literature:

Le cosmicomiche. by Italo Calvino
PQ 4809 .A45 C6 2000

PQ        Romance Literatures
4001-5999  Italian literature
4800-4851  Individual authors, 1900-1960 (Birth date)
.A45      Cutter number for Gadda. (Sometimes the letter corresponds to the author’s last name)
Q413      Cutter number for this title (C is the first letter of the title. This is almost always true)
2000      Year of publication