

LIS 663: Metadata: Description and Access
Rick Block
Fall 2008
Assignment 3: MODS
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<mods>

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of Oral Literature On-Line</title></titleInfo>

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Library. Widener Collection</name>

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The Milman Parry Collection is the largest single repository of
South Slavic heroic song in the world. It comprises the following

separate collections. All of these are currently housed in Widener Library, Room C.

The texts and recordings of oral literature, including both epic and lyric songs, some stories, and conversations with singers and others, made by Professor Milman Parry of the Department of the Classics at Harvard University during the summer of 1933 and from June 1934 to September 1935, in Yugoslavia. Over 3,500 double-sided aluminum discs, with a playing time of ca. 4 min. each. Transcriptions of these songs are contained in ninety-five notebooks (14 cm. x 14 cm., 120 sides in each); dictated songs are contained in ca. 800 notebooks (14 cm. x 14 cm., 70 sides in each).

The Albanian Collection of some one hundred dictated epic texts was made by Lord in the north Albanian mountains in the Fall of 1937. These texts are contained in twelve notebooks (14 cm. x 14 cm., 200 sides in each.)

The Lord Collection consists of epic texts collected by him in Yugoslavia in the summers of 1950, 1951, and 1966. The last of these is little known, but contains Christian songs from the mountain ranges from Nis to Prijepolje. These songs are contained on thirty-five reel tapes (acetate).

The Lord and Bynum Collection consists of texts collected by Lord and Bynum in Yugoslavia in the summers of 1962-1965 and 1967.

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MODS is much better structured and more detailed than DC. It allows for more detailed description. In this particular case it allowed for more precise description of author, date of creation and physical characteristics of the resource.

On the other hand, my feeling is that in terms of usefulness of the description DC performed well enough. Since the resource is a web site the description DC gives seems to be sufficient.