

[Benjamin M. Parks](#)

LIS 703 01

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Reply from Benjamin M. Parks

War and Peace, by Leo Tolstoy, Why We Love Baseball, by Joe Posnanski and The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson are the three books I grabbed off my shelf. I searched the online catalogs at Dominican's Library, Chicago Public Library and The University of Chicago's Library too and the following is what I found out through those MARC Fields.

***War and Peace* by Leo Tolstoy -**

Dominican University:

- **520 (Summary Note):** Describes the content of the book, provides historical context and thematic elements

Chicago Public Library (CPL):

- **500 (General Note):** States, "*This is a Borzoi book*," which identifies a specific edition
- **504 (Bibliographical Note):** Indicates that the book includes bibliographical references and an index

University of Chicago:

- **500 (General Note):** Also includes "*This is a Borzoi book*."
- **504 (Bibliographical Note):** Matches CPL's entry, confirming bibliographical references and an index

After going through this search we saw similarities between UChicago and CPL's MARC documentation. The reason for this difference can be attributed to the fact that we are looking at different versions of the same book. Dominican's 520 field was a summary note which CPL and UChicago did not have in their descriptions. I found this 520 field to be useful for broader searching purposes. For Example, if I wanted to learn about Napoleon and his influence on the Russian novel I would find the 520 field provided by Dominican very useful.

***Why We Love Baseball* by Joe Posnanski**

Dominican University:

- **500 (General Note):** Includes a general note providing additional context about the book.
- **504 (Bibliographical Note):** Indicates the presence of bibliographical references within the book.

University of Chicago:

- **500 (General Note):** Contains a general note offering supplementary information about the book's content or context.
- **504 (Bibliographical Note):** Mentions that the book includes bibliographical references.

Chicago Public Library:

- **500 (General Note):** Provides a general note with additional insights or details about the book.
- **504 (Bibliographical Note):** States that bibliographical references are included in the book.

I like the uniformity here which in due part owes its consistency to the fact that these are first editions of the same book which came out in 2023. I do think that there could be a benefit to a 520 field here like we saw in the *War and Peace* at Dominican. In a 520 field I would summarize in more detail the 50 moments the book selects as its guide to the history of baseball. These 50 moments are the chapter titles which would be useful for anyone looking to dig deeper into specific moments in baseball history.

***The Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson**

Dominican University:

- **500 (General Note):** Provides additional context about the book
- **504 (Bibliographical Note):** Indicates the presence of bibliographical references and an index

University of Chicago:

- **500 (General Note):** Offers supplementary information about the book's content or context.
- **504 (Bibliographical Note):** Mentions that the book includes bibliographical references and an index.

Chicago Public Library:

- **500 (General Note):** Provides additional insights or details about the book.
- **504 (Bibliographical Note):** States that bibliographical references and an index are included in the book.

The Devil in the White City, had a similar consistency across all three OPAC's. I think, just like the other two books, we could benefit from a 520 field here. Including information about the World's Fair, H.H. Holmes, Burnham and Root and turn of the century Chicago would be helpful

for researchers. Overall, I find these 500's to be a great way to siphon out any juicy details for researchers.