Implementing VRA Core 4.0 in Metadata Workflows

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Retablo depicting a political encounter
What is the VRA Core?

The VRA Core is a data standard for the cultural heritage community.

- It consists of a metadata element set (units of information such as title, location, date, etc.)
- It includes a blueprint for how these elements can be hierarchically structured.

What I’ll cover

- What is the VRA Core 4.0?
- Why did we use it?
- What questions are we asking about (Cornell’s) use of VRA Core 4.0?
Q. Why did we use VRA Core 4.0? A. Community

Cataloguing Cultural Objects: A Guide to Describing Cultural Works and Their Images

- Union List of Artist Names
- Art & Architecture Thesaurus
- Thesaurus for Graphic Materials I: Subject Terms (TGM I)
- Getty Thesaurus of Geographic Names
- Thesaurus for Graphic Materials II: Genre & Physical Characteristic Terms (TGM II)

Q. Why did we use VRA Core 4.0? A. To establish a re-useable work flow

A: To establish a reusable workflow on which we could layer other processes

- VRA XML
- VRA data structure in delivery system
- Legacy data
- Archival containers
- Technical metadata
- Vocabulary enhancements

A: A potential step toward data interoperability
Q: Is (our use of) VRA too complex?

Q: Where should the ‘weight’ in the attribute-value pair be?

Like this?:

<attribute>value</attribute>

Q: Where should the ‘weight’ be in the attribute-value pair?

Or like this?:


Q: Is our use of VRA Core 4.0 scalable?
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