



UW/SIMM Video Game Metadata Schema: Controlled Vocabulary for THEME

University of Washington Information School Game Metadata Research (GAMER) Group and Seattle Interactive Media Museum

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SN: Scope note

USE: Preferred term (See)

USE FOR: Equivalent term, lead-in term

BT: Broader term

NT: Narrower term

RT: Related term (See also)

Term	Information
[Preferred term in bold]	SN: [Insert definition & explanation here.] USE FOR: [lead-in term, if applicable] BT: [broader terms, if applicable] NT: [narrower terms, if applicable] RT: [related terms, if applicable]
[lead-in term]	USE: [preferred term]
abandonment	USE: alienation
abduction	SN: the state or experience of one's life being threatened after forcefully being taken away against one's will
adult	SN: dealing in or with explicitly sexual material ¹
alienation	SN: the state or experience of being isolated from a group or an activity to which one should belong or in which one should be involved Examples: Dead Space, Ecco the Dolphin USE FOR: abandonment, isolation
alter-egos	SN: a second self, which is believed to be distinct from a person's normal or original personality. Often used as a disguise. Examples: Muramasu, Prince of Persia: The 2 Thrones RT: identity
Anti-war	RT: War SN: the mentality used to describe activists who are against war and all the trauma and destruction it brings
apocalypse	SN: the end of the world, in which humanity or inhabitants of some world is in total disarray over the destruction of their home USE FOR: post apocalypse
autobiography	USE: biography
betrayal	SN: the breaking or violation of a presumptive contract, trust, or confidence that produces moral and psychological conflict within a relationship amongst individuals, between

¹ Adult. (n.d.) In Merriam-Webster online. Retreived from http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/adult

	organizations or between individuals and organizations. Examples: Asura's Wrath, Fable
biography	SN: the story of one's life, as told through the eyes of someone else
bisexuality	USE: LGBT
capitalism	SN: an economic and political system in which a country's trade and industry are controlled by private owners for profit, rather than by the state. Examples: Tropico, Capitalism (series), Railroad Tycoon RT: politics, wealth, work
Christianity	SN: the branch of religion that worships Jesus Christ and his teachings BT: Religion
civilization	SN: the process by which a society or place reaches various stages of social development and organization beyond hunter-gatherer society Examples: Farmville, Civilization, Spore USE FOR: creation RT: conquest
Coming-of-age	USE: growth
companionship	SN: a feeling of fellowship or friendship Examples: Nintendogs USE FOR: family, friendship, loyalty RT: love
competition	SN: the act or process of trying to get or win something (such as a prize or a higher level of success) that someone else is also trying to get or win: the act or process of competing Examples: Burnout Paradise, MarioKart
conquest	SN: the act of gaining control of (a problem or difficulty) through great effort Examples: Command & Conquer, Pokemon Conquest RT: civilization
conservation	SN: the act of maintaining and bettering the world by caring for the environment; this includes reducing waste, reusing or recycling materials, and looking out for animal habitats
Conspiracy	SN: of or relating to the belief that an event was orchestrated by a powerful group of people in secret
corruption	SN: impairment of integrity, virtue, or moral principle, especially of those in power Examples: Mafia II USE FOR: greed, innocence
creation	USE: civilization
crime	SN: actions that are deemed injurious to the public welfare or to the interests of the state and that are legally prohibited.

	Examples: Grand Theft Auto, Sleeping Dogs
death	SN: of or relating to the loss of a life, and the ability of those around them to cope with never seeing them again
destruction	SN: the widespread damage of a particular place or thing
diplomacy	SN: of or relating to peaceful negotiations with other parties
duty	USE: honor
dvetonie	SN: a society in which social or technological trends have culminated in a greatly diminished quality of life or degradation of values. Examples: Bioshock, Crysis 3
dystopia	
economy	SN: the process or system by which goods and services are produced, sold, and bought in a country or region ²
education	SN: the formal field that dictates how obtaining institutionalized knowledge is passed down from generation to generation
espionage	SN: of or relating to acts of spying, often between different countries
evolution	SN: the process by which living things have adapted to changes in their surroundings over time, often by altering their genetic makeup
faith	SN: something that is believed with strong conviction, despite an absence of evidence Examples: El Shaddai USE FOR: religion
family	SN: a group of individuals (parents, siblings, etc.) who are related to each other, often (but not necessarily) by blood; these individuals have strong feelings of compassionate love and care for one another USE FOR: Siblings
fate	SN: the development of events beyond a person's control, regarded as determined by a supernatural power. Examples: Threads of Fate RT: prophecy
financial gain	USE: wealth
forgiveness	USE: redemption
freedom	SN: the power or right to act, speak, or think as one wants without hindrance or restraint. Examples: Enslaved: Odyssey to the West
friendship	USE: companionship
gay	USE: LGBT
greed	USE: corruption
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 $^{^2}$ Economy. (n.d.) In Merriam-Webster online. Retreived from <code>http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/economy</code>

	SN: the attainment of prominence, respectability, recognition, or maturity; usually a young
a.m.a41.	person's transition from childhood to adulthood
growth	Examples: Fable, The Last of Us
	BT: crime
heist	SN: an organized crime where criminals have a sophisticated plan to steal valuable items e.g., money, jewelry, or famous works of art
holiday	SN: the celebration of an event that is common between a large group of people, e.g., Christmas, Thanksgiving, etc.
	SN: respect that is given to someone who is admired: good reputation: good quality or
	character as judged by other people: high moral standards of behavior Examples: Disgaa, Fallout 3
	USE FOR: duty, patriotism, reputation, truth
honor	RT: redemption
	SN: the distinguishing characteristics or personality of an individual
	Examples: Remember Me
	USE FOR: individual versus society
identity	RT: alter-egos
Illuminati	SN: the secret organization/society dedicated to the opposition of religious influences over the public, as well as the abuse of state power
injustice	USE: justice
innocence	USE: corruption
isolation	USE: alienation
	SN: the quality of being just, impartial, or fair; : the principle or ideal of just dealing or
	right action Examples: Phoenix Wright
justice	USE FOR: injustice
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knowledge	SN: facts information and skills acquired from a person through experience Examples: Brain Age
lesbian	USE: LGBT
	SN: an initialism that stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender
	Examples: Mass Effect, Dragonage
LGBT	USE FOR: bisexuality, gay, lesbian
	SN: a feeling of strong or constant affection for a person
	Examples: Braid, Year Walk
love	RT: companionship
loyalty	USE: companionship
maturity	USE: growth

murder	SN: the crime in which one individual kills another in a premeditated manner
mystery	SN: something not understood or beyond understanding Examples: Eternal Darkness
occult	USE FOR: witchcraft, curse SN: of or relating to the belief in the supernatural
Pandemic	SN: the occurrence of a disease spreading rapidly between individuals across geographic and national boundaries
patriotism	USE: honor
paranormal	SN: not understandable in terms of known scientific laws and phenomena ³
politics	SN: activities that relate to influencing the actions and policies of a government or getting and keeping power in a government; : a person's political thoughts and opinions Examples: Tropico RT: capitalism
power	SN: the ability or right to control people or things; : political control of a country or area; : a person or organization that has a lot of control and influence over other people or organizations Examples: Bioshock: Infinite, Civilization USE FOR: pride
pride	USE: power
prophecy	SN: a supernatural prediction about the future Examples: Odin Sphere, Year Walk RT: fate
redemption	SN: the act of atoning for sin or wrongdoing (especially appeasing a deity) Examples: Dante's Inferno USE FOR: forgiveness RT: honor
religion	USE: faith
reputation	USE: honor
revenge	SN: the action of inflicting hurt or harm on someone for an injury or wrong suffered at their hands. Examples: Grand Theft Auto IV
romance	USE: love
sacrifice	SN: the selfless act in which one person gives up something of value to them for the sake of another

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 $^{^3}$ Paranormal. (n.d.) In Merriam-Webster online. Retreived from http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/paranormal

savagery	USE: violence
Siblings	USE: family
Slavery	SN: the concept in which one person is legally owned by another and forced to do their bidding without any form of reimbursement ⁴
Supernatural	USE FOR: paranormal, occult
survival	SN: the state or fact of continuing to live or exist, typically in spite of an accident, ordeal, or difficult circumstances. Examples: Canabalt, The Last of Us
time travel	SN: the concept in which one may move through different points in time—past or future—and experience what life is like at that moment
truth	USE: honor
violence	SN: behavior involving physical force intended to hurt, damage, or kill someone or something. Examples: God of War USE FOR: savagery, combat RT: war
war	SN: a state of armed conflict between different nations or states or different groups within a nation or state. Examples: Call of Duty IV RT: violence
wealth	SN: an abundance of valuable possessions or money. USE FOR: financial gain Examples: The Patrician, Port Royale (series) RT: capitalism, work
work	SN: activity involving mental or physical effort done in order to achieve a purpose, result, or most often monetary gain Examples: The Office, Office Riot RT: capitalism, wealth

Term	Information
[Preferred term	SN: [Insert definition & explanation here.]
in bold]	USE FOR: [lead-in term, if applicable]
	BT: [broader terms, if applicable]
	NT: [narrower terms, if applicable]
	RT: [related terms, if applicable]
[lead-in term]	USE: [preferred term]

⁴ Slave. (n.d.) In Merriam-Webster online. Retreived from http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/slave

Animals	SN: different species on earth that humans must coexist with NT: pets, farm animals
Pets	SN: animals that have been domesticated and can be kept in one's home, often for companionship BT: animals
Dogs	SN: A (typically) four-legged animal that barks, and has the title of "man's best friend" BT: Pets
Cats	SN: A (typically) four-legged animal that meows and purrs; they are usually small in size, low maintenance, and of the same family as lions, tigers, etc. BT: Pets
Birds	SN: A flying animal that often chirps, building nests in trees as their homes
Farm animals	SN: animals that have been domesticated for the use of farming; humans may also seek companionship from these animals, but they often do not live in the same shelter a humans BT: animals
Horses	SN: A large, four-legged animal that neighs and whinnies; before cars, humans often rode atop this animal with a saddle or hitched them up to a wagon BT: Farm animals
Dinosaurs	SN: the large variety of reptiles that lived upon this earth millions of years ago e.g., triceratops, tyrannosaurus rex
Dragons	SN: the mythical winged beast, often reptilian in appearance, that can fly and breathe fire
Fish	USE: Aquatic life
Aquatic life	SN: of or relating to any beings that predominantly live and operate underwater USE FOR: Fish USE FOR: Whale
Bugs	SN: small insects that creep or crawl, and are often found residing in or around plants
Plants	SN: something that grows out from soil, often starting as a seed and maturing into a different living thing like a flower
Trains	SN: a mode of transportation that involves the use of railroads and railcars
Cars/Trucks	SN: a (usually) four-wheeled vehicle that operates on gasoline
Motorcycles	SN: a (usually) two-wheeled vehicle that operates on gasoline; those who ride motorcycles must wear helmets
Bicycles	SN: a two-wheeled vehicle that operates solely on manpower, in which its riders must pedal their way to their destination
Boats/Ships	SN: a vehicle that is used to travel on water
Submarines	SN: a vehicle that is used to travel underwater

Drug	SN: an illegal and often harmful substance that people take for pleasure.5
Magicians	SN: individuals who practice magic or illusions
Royalty	SN: those who belong or marry into a royal bloodline, such as kings, queens, princes, princesses, etc. USE FOR: Princess, Prince
Knights	SN: individuals who swear their allegiance to and protect royalty
Babies	SN: the smallest, youngest form of human beings possible; they require the utmost care and supervision
Children	SN: young human beings that are older than babies, and have an abundance of energy to run and play all day
Puppets	SN: a doll that is moved by putting your hand inside it or by pulling strings or wires that are attached to it.6
Aliens	SN: extraterrestrial beings that live on other planets throughout the solar system
Robots	SN: mechanized beings that were created by humans
Computers and network	SN: of or relating to computers and the networks in which they operate
Weapons	SN: items whose chief purpose is to inflict harm on others
Warriors	SN: individuals who fight or engage in combat RT: Military
Assassins	SN: individuals who are skilled in the elimination of other people BT: Warriors RT: Mercenary
Pirates	SN: those who sail the Seven Seas, often for the purpose of seeking treasure or capturing other ships BT: Warriors
Samurai	SN: noble Japanese warriors that fight in the name of honor and duty BT: Warriors
Ninja	SN: skilled individuals, often Japanese, that fight and operate on the basis of silence and efficiency BT: Warriors
Gladiators	SN: warriors from Roman times that fought in the Coliseum for sport BT: Warriors
Gangs	SN: A group of individuals that band together under leadership and/or similar ideals,

⁵ Drug. (n.d.) In Merriam-Webster online. Retreived from http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/drug ⁶ Puppets. (n.d.) In Merriam-Webster online. Retreived from http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/puppets

	often for the purpose of crime RT: Warriors NT: Mafia, Yakuza
Yakuza	SN: the Japanese form of the mafia/gangs BT: Gangs
Mafia	SN: Gangs characterized by Italian individuals and underground crime rings BT: Gangs
Mercenary	SN: an individual hired to fight; their only allegiance is to those who pay them the most money RT: Assassins
Detective	SN: an individual who solves crimes
Superheroes	SN: extraordinary individuals with unique power who dedicate their powers to fighting evil and doing good in the world; they often have powers or abilities that normal people do not e.g., super strength, speed, flight, etc.
Gods	SN: "perfect" beings, whether religious or mythical, that are worshipped by normal humans for their power over human life and experiences
Angels	SN: a spiritual, celestial being that does good in the name of God; they are often benevolent in nature
Demons	SN: an evil spirit that often seeks to cause harm, distress, or ruin. ⁷
Vampires	SN: an inhuman, supernatural being that often resembles humans; the chief difference is that their chief source of sustenance is blood
Zombies	SN: the reanimated corpse of a dead person, often depicted as rotting and wanting nothing more than to eat those that are alive
Monsters	SN: an imaginary creature often depicted as scary and fiercely abnormal
Fairies	SN: a mythological being, often small in stature, with magical powers
Ghosts	SN: the supernatural form of one's spirit after their passing from the mortal world
Cowboys and Cowgirls	SN: individuals who care for cows or horses, often appearing in Western settings
Space	SN: of or relating to the solar system, and the infinite universes beyond/within it
Tanks	SN: a weaponized vehicle with a thick shell of armor, often used in wars RT: Weapons
Magic	SN: of or relating to mystical practices, involving things like spells and potions

 $^{^7}$ Demon. (n.d.) In Merriam-Webster online. Retreived from http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/demon

Mechs	USE: Robots
Military	SN: a nation's army and chief defense against other nations RT: Warriors USE FOR: Soldiers
Soldiers	SN: those who enlisted to join the military and/or its various branches USE: Military
Airplane	SN: a winged-vehicle that is used to travel the skies, as opposed to a helicopter USE FOR: Aircraft
Watercraft	USE: boats/ships
Navy	USE: Military
Airforce	USE: Military
Rollercoaster	SN: an amusement park ride characterized by quick speeds, abnormal heights, and the adrenaline/thrill it offers to its passengers
Spy	USE: Espionage
Wild animals	SN: animals that have not been domesticated, and must be approached with caution

Term	Information
[Preferred term	SN: [Insert definition & explanation here.]
in bold]	USE FOR: [lead-in term, if applicable]
	BT: [broader terms, if applicable]
	NT: [narrower terms, if applicable]
	RT: [related terms, if applicable]
[lead-in term]	USE: [preferred term]
	SN: the act of raising animals or preparing/harvesting crops
Farming	RT: farm animals
Dating	SN: the process of getting to know and assessing one's romantic interest
Demolition	SN: the approved, deliberate destruction of a building or other structure.8
Cooking	SN: the act of preparing foods for consumption, often involving the use of a stove or oven as a heat source
City-building	SN: the construction of a city
Management	SN: the delegation of work among people, or the ability to prioritize tasks and carry them out to completion
Travel	SN: the act of going on a trip or journey away from one's home, often to a neighboring

 $^{^8}$ Demolition. (n.d.) In Merriam-Webster online. Retreived from http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/demolition

	state or country
Baking	SN: the act of creating baked goods like bread for consumption, primarily using an oven
Design	SN: the subject matter that belongs to the creation of aesthetically pleasing graphics
Hacking	SN: of or relating to the act of circumventing security measures in computerized systems for personal gain or social activism
Construction	SN: the act or process of assembling items into a coherent structure (e.g., house) USE FOR: building
Simulation	SN: a computerized imitation of real-world practices or occurrences
Flying	SN: the act of being able to soar throughout the skies, getting from one destination to another USE FOR: flight
Swordplay	SN: the skilled form of combat centered on the use of swords
Combat	SN: of or relating to fighting physically with one another NT: Swordplay
Trading	SN: the act of swapping items with an individual in exchange for different items
Mining	SN: the process or business of digging in mines to obtain minerals, metals, jewels, etc9
Crafting	SN: the process of creating useful items
Exploration	SN: of or relating to the discovery of new places
Flight	USE: Flying
Racing	SN: a competition centered on who can travel through a set course the quickest BT: Sports
Sports	SN: an organized activity that involves multiple teams or individuals competing against each other to see who's the best NT: Racing, Baseball, Basketball, Bicycling, Billiards, Boxing, Bowling, Football, Soccer, Volleyball, Swimming, Skiing, Snowboarding, Curling, Golf, Hockey, Martial Arts, Tennis, Wrestling, Fighting, Fencing, Skateboarding, Surfing, Dance, Hunting, Fishing, Table tennis, Cricket, Pool, Rugby, Sailing
Baseball	SN: a game played on a large field between two teams, involving the use of bats, mitts, and a baseball BT: Sports
Basketball	SN: a game played on a court with two hoops; the main objective of the game is to score the most points by shooting a basketball through the proper hoop BT: Sports

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 $^{^{9}}$ Mining. (n.d.) In Merriam-Webster online. Retreived from http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/mining

	SN: a compatition that involves riding one's hike through a set source the suislant
Bicycling	SN: a competition that involves riding one's bike through a set course the quickest BT: Sports
Billiards	SN: a game that involves the use of a pool table, pool cues, a cue ball, and billiard balls; the object of the game is to sink the billiard balls into the pool table pockets in a predefined manner BT: Sports
Boxing	SN: the sport centered on fighting others in a regulated, organized manner; it is often in a boxing ring, using boxing gloves and appropriate safety gear BT: Sports
Bowling	SN: a game that relies on the use of bowling balls and bowling pins; the object of the game is to gain the highest score possible by knocking down the most pins in the least amount of tries possible BT: Sports
Football	SN: an organized sport played between two teams on a large field, involving the use of a football BT: Sports
Soccer	SN: a game played on a large field involving the use of a soccer ball and trying to score as many goals as possible BT: Sports
Volleyball	SN: a game played with a volleyball on a large court, separated by a high net BT: Sports
Swimming	SN: the competitive sport that involves racing against others in a swimming pool to see who can swim the fastest BT: Sports
Skiing	SN: a sport that involves the use of ski poles and ski boards to race down a snowy mountainside BT: Sports
Snowboarding	SN: a sport that involves the sue of snowboards to race down a snowy mountainside BT: Sports
Curling	SN: a game in which two teams of four players slide special stones over ice toward a circle. BT: Sports
Golf	SN: a game in which individuals hit golf balls towards golf holes; the goal of the game is to do so in as few hits as possible BT: Sports
Hockey	SN: a game that takes place in an ice rink where players must skate on ice and score as many goals as possible with a hockey puck using a hockey stick BT: Sports

 $^{^{\}rm 10}$ Curling. (n.d.) In Merriam-Webster online. Retreived from http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/curling

Martial arts	SN: a type of combative art form with roots historically Asian roots BT: Sports
Tennis	SN: a game that takes place on a court separated by a low net, involving the use of tennis balls and tennis rackets BT: Sports
Wrestling	SN: a type of combative sport in which players must pin down others for a set period of time BT: Sports
Fighting	SN: of or relating to physical altercations with another individual
Fencing	SN: a sport centered on the use of swords and graceful swordplay BT: Sports
Skateboarding	SN: a sport or activity centered on the use of skateboards and doing tricks BT: Sports
Surfing	SN: a sport or activity centered on the use of a surfboard, in which individuals ride atop waves BT: Sports
Dance	SN: a sport or activity that involves the graceful movement on one's body in time to music BT: Sports
Hunting	SN: the activity of killing animals for sport, often in a regulated manner BT: Sports
Fishing	SN: the sport or activity centered on being able to catch fish using a net or fishing pole BT: Sports
Table tennis	SN: also known as ping pong, table tennis is a game played using a table divided with a low net, paddles, and a ping pong ball BT: Sports
Cricket	SN: a game played with a ball and bat by two sides of usually 11 players each on a large field centering upon two wickets each defended by a batsman. ¹¹ BT: Sports
Pool	USE: Billiards
Rugby	SN: a game played by two teams in which each team tries to carry or kick a ball over the other team's goal line. ¹² BT: Sports
Sailing	SN: the sport of activity of traveling on water in a sailboat. ¹³

 $^{^{\}rm 11}$ Cricket. (n.d.) In Merriam-Webster online. Retreived from http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/cricket

¹² Rugby. (n.d.) In Merriam-Webster online. Retreived from http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/rugby

BT: Sports

Term	Information
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[lead-in term]	USE: [preferred term]
Art	SN: of or relating to visually creative works
Health	SN: of or relating to the maintenance of one's body in peak physical condition USE FOR: exercise, fitness
Architecture	SN: of or relating to the design and construction of buildings
Music	SN: of or relating to the creation of creative auditory works
Fashion and Beauty	SN: of or relating to the industry centered on clothing and outward appearances
Business	SN: of or relating to buying and selling of goods
Mythology	SN: of or relating to the study of myths and mythical beings like gods and goddesses
Science	SN: of or relating to the study of the natural world
Agriculture	SN: of or relating to caring for or harvesting animals and crops RT: Farming, Farm animals
Astronomy	USE: Space

 $^{^{\}rm 13}$ Sailing. (n.d.) In Merriam-Webster online. Retreived from http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/sailing