The Modes of Formation of Subjects represent a conceptual model for subject structuring in the field of library and information science. Subject-structuring is basic to information retrieval. It refers to the network of relations among the constituent ideas of subjects and the Universe of Subjects.

Subject structuring is an interdisciplinary field having linkages with cognitive psychology, linguistics, philosophy and knowledge presentation in artificial intelligence etc. The theory of structuralism and General System theory have wide implications in the study of the structural attributes of subjects. Developmental perspective of the universe of subjects provides an insight into the structural patterns of ideas and subjects.

As such, the thesis, has tried to cover the concept of subject; structural attributes of subjects on the basis of historical perspective, theory of structuralism and General Systems theory; structural studies in the field of library and information science; conceptual model of Ranganathan relating to typology of relations, empirical testing of the model and the role of the model in information retrieval.