

1-1-2009

Finding Books and Articles at Pence Law Library

Pence Law Library, Washington College of Law

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.wcl.american.edu/research_guides

Recommended Citation

Pence Law Library, Washington College of Law, "Finding Books and Articles at Pence Law Library" (2009). *Research Guides*. Paper 2.
http://digitalcommons.wcl.american.edu/research_guides/2

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Pence Law Library at Digital Commons @ American University Washington College of Law. It has been accepted for inclusion in Research Guides by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ American University Washington College of Law. For more information, please contact fbrown@wcl.american.edu.

Finding Books and Articles at the Pence Law Library

1. Finding books at the Pence Law Library

Pence Law Library Catalog > leagle.wcl.american.edu/

Search for a specific book by **title or author**, or search for materials on a topic by **keyword or subject**. If the library has it, find it on the shelf or ask a librarian.

Sample keyword searches: administrative and judicial review, regulat* and financial.

Sample subject searches: administrative law united states, administrative procedure united states.

Browse a subject-based call number range in the online catalog

Search the WCL Library catalog by call number prefix (kf 5401) and browse forward to view WCL Library materials in that call number range. This is a good way to see everything the library has on a given topic. See "Guide to Law-Related Call Numbers" library.wcl.american.edu/resources/classificationlawref.pdf for subject-specific call number ranges.

Browse the WCL Library shelves

Browse a call number range in the library stacks (reserve and second floor) to find materials on a particular topic. This is also a good way to see the whole collection on the topic. See "Guide to Law-Related Call Numbers" for subject-specific ranges.

If the book is not available electronically or at WCL, request it via interlibrary loan.

WCL students have access to a wide range of books and journals not available in AU libraries and databases through **WorldCat**. The link to WorldCat can be found on the Library's "Information Resources A-Z," "Information Resources by Topic," and "Research Tools" pages. Locate the book and then request the article through Interlibrary Loan using **ILLiad**. If you have not used it before, make sure to register on the ILLIAD page, wcl.american.illiad.oclc.org/ILLiad/Logon.html.

2. Finding Legal Articles

Topical databases (See Information Resources by Topic webpage)

library.wcl.american.edu/resources/topics.cfm

Electronic looseleaf services combine primary (statutes, regulations and judicial and agency decisions) and secondary (analysis, headnotes) materials on a particular topic, offering one-stop-research in a topical area, such as securities law. Electronic services from BNA, CCH and RIA (tax) are available.

Paper looseleaf services are shelved in Reserve and on 2nd Floor (search the catalog by keyword or subject or by title to find call numbers) or browse the shelves in a call number range.

LegalTrac

Search for US, British, Canadian and Australian law journal articles; many full text articles also available.

"**Subject Guide Search**" – searches by subject heading; good for comprehensive searching; can produce more organized results

Keyword Search – try several variations

Index to Legal Periodicals and Books

Search for US, British, Canadian and Australian law journal articles and books; many full text articles also available.

Create an account – save searches and results

Subject search – indexes > subject > browse for term > add > search. Also good for comprehensive searches and more organized results.

Keyword search – try several variations

Current Index to Legal Periodicals

Update LegalTrac and ILP research by viewing most recent weeks' issues. Available in HTML, Word, and PDF. Organized by journal title and area of law.

Lexis and Westlaw

These are full text, text-based (not PDF) databases. They are searchable by author, title, and keywords. Search techniques vary by database. They require individual passwords. Do not forget to extend your passwords so that you can use them throughout the summer.

Please note: LEXIS AND WESTLAW COMBINED CONTAIN ONLY A SMALL FRACTION OF ALL PUBLISHED LEGAL ARTICLES. Make sure to use the indexes described above for thorough research.

HeinOnline

Hein has a comprehensive collection of full-text PDF images of major law journal articles, going back to the first issue, in many cases. Note that recent articles (generally, about the last 2 years' worth) are not available. Hein also includes Statutes at Large, state session laws, the Federal Register, and the Code of Federal Regulations, as well as a large collection of historical materials.

3. Finding Non-Legal Articles

Social Science Research Network (SSRN)

Abstracts of scholarly working papers and articles in various social science fields. Also includes some full text materials. You can create an account with a customized list of journal "subscriptions."

Browse – select topic areas and browse journal articles and other content.

Search – search all topic areas and journals by author and/or keyword.

JSTOR

An archive of full text articles from journals in various disciplines. Does not include current journals – the usual time lag is 2 to 5 years.

Browse by discipline and journal title

Keyword Search

Article Locator – find articles by title or citation

AU Bender Library Databases

The AU Bender Library databases have thousands of academic journals in a variety of disciplines. Most are full text. You can search by journal title or by discipline.

To find a journal: go to AU Bender Library> research/ALADIN> find on-line journals by title and enter journal title. This tells you in which database(s) to find the journal.

To search for an article: go to AU Bender Library> research/ALADIN> Databases by title> select database.

OR

go to AU Bender Library> research/ALADIN> Find articles in databases> select subject > select Database(s).

Search technique varies by database.

4. Finding Articles in Hard Copy at the Pence Law Library

WCL Library Catalog > leagle.wcl.american.edu/search

Search for the **title of the journal**. Recent journal volumes (generally the past year) are located in the Reserve Room. Bound journals are located in the Periodicals section on the second floor. Journals in both locations are arranged alphabetically by journal title.

5. Requesting Articles through Interlibrary Loan

You may also request articles through **WorldCat**, using the . Locate the article or the journal in WorldCat and then request the article through Interlibrary Loan using ILLiad. Be sure to include the volume and page number of the journal, as well as the article title, in the request form.