Business Law
Library Resources: An Overview

Access the Library Catalog for books about your topic.

Consult databases for articles about your topic. Contains peer-reviewed journals, newspapers, and magazine articles:

- ABI/Inform
- Business Source Premier
- Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe
- OneFile (Infotrac)
- ProQuest Research Library

Other databases:

- EconLit: Journals, books, and working papers on economics.
- PsycInfo (ProQuest): Contains psychology abstracts from journals.
- ScienceDirect: Full text journals covering the social sciences and sciences. Includes many scholarly journals in management, business, and accounting.
- Gale Virtual Reference Library — an electronic database of selected encyclopedias, almanacs, and specialized reference sources for multidisciplinary research; useful as a quick, online reference source but should not be used in place of print reference sources in the library’s reference stacks.
- Communication & Mass Media Complete (EBSCO) — for accessing journals from the fields of popular culture, rhetoric, communication, media, film, political communication, journalism, advertising, etc.
- Sociological Abstracts — for articles from sources related to sociology, social work, and other social sciences.

WebFeat --searches all of our databases and the library catalog in one search!

EndNote -- software that automates bibliography and citation creation. Information available at: http://lib.newpaltz.edu/endnote/endnoteinfo.html

Searching Tips

- Keep track of the keywords and subject terms that are used in the library catalog and the databases.
- If you use the Internet, evaluate according to: currency, accuracy, objectivity, authority, coverage
Narrowing and expanding results

- **Narrow** your search by using AND operators w/ additional specifying terms, searching more specific database fields, limiting search with database limiters
- **Expand** your search by using OR operators w/synonyms; searching with more general subject terms; looking at similar works by the author, related subjects, and additional related items
- Use any special limiters available in the database (ex: limit to peer-reviewed, etc.)

Definitions of Frequently Used Library Terms:
(http://www.sunysb.edu/library/tutorial/glossary/)

- **Abstract:** A summary of a publication (book, article, etc.) that is included with citation information. It may help you identify the best articles on your topic.
- **Full Text:** The entire text of a published article is made available on-screen.
- **Invisible Web:** The portion of the Web that is hidden from search engines, which require a subscription or password to access. The library’s databases are an example of the invisible Web.
- **Peer-reviewed:** Peer-reviewed journals only publish articles that have been approved by a panel of experts in a field of study. Peer-reviewed journals are sources geared towards scholars with long, in-depth articles based on research. [How to Identify a Scholarly or Peer-Reviewed Article?](http://lib.newpaltz.edu/assistance/scholar.html)
- **Plagiarism:** Presenting the words or ideas of someone else as your own without proper acknowledgement of the source. [How to Avoid & Detect Plagiarism](http://lib.newpaltz.edu/assistance/plag.html)
- **Popular journal/magazine:** A source that publishes short articles that cover a wide range of topics. These sources are usually filled with photographs and advertisements, and authors are not named.
- **Trade journals:** Industry or trade-based journals that fall somewhere between magazines and academic journals in complexity of subject.

Additional help with library resources:

- **Library Research Assistance** — information on how to develop a research topic, use internet search engines, etc.
- Ask for help at the Information Desk
- **Interlibrary loans** — click on the ILLiad link from the STL homepage; create an ILLiad account (or use your present one if you have already signed up); fill out the interlibrary request form.

**Let me know if this session was helpful. Please fill out an online evaluation form**
(http://lib.newpaltz.edu/assistance/321_eval.html)

Thank you for your feedback!