Lexis®Library gives users online access to full text articles, as well as abstracts from UK & international legal journals. The Journals Index within the database is a practitioner-focused index of legal articles which is updated daily. It provides access to abstracts from over 500 legal journals.

Accessing the database

Go to the Library home page and enter Lexis Library in the Search Our Collections box. On the results screen, click on Lexis Library (LexisNexis) and then click on Lexis Library (LexisNexis) under the “View Online” section which will link you to the database, Lexis Library, and, when prompted, log in with your university username and password.

Note! Personalisation services, e.g. ‘Alerts’, ‘Saved searches’, etc. are only available when using off campus access via the UK Federation (Shibboleth) link. You may be asked to sign in via your institution, in which case you must select ‘UK Access Management Federation’, then ‘University of Aberdeen’, and lastly, enter your University of Aberdeen username and password.

1. UK legal journals

Searching for UK full text journals

Click on the Journals tab in the top menu bar to open the journals specific search screen.

For full text journals, enter your search terms into the Search terms box (see image above), and click on the Search button. It is not necessary to complete every field on this screen. The default search is All Subscribed Journals Sources. To view a complete list of UK journals, click on More sources and then select Legal Journals. Tick the source or sources you require and click on OK-Continue. Your search will then be limited to your selected titles.

Need articles on a subject? Enter your search terms in the ‘Search terms’ box or select index terms from a hierarchical list of legal topics by clicking on Add topics to search.

Article citation

The Article citation search box can be used to search the citation of an article. You may ignore brackets or other punctuation, and you may use lower case if preferred, e.g. to search for the article entitled Adventurous Administrator in Tolley’s Insolvency Law and Practice, (2004) 20 IL and P 273, enter 2004 20 il and p 273 in the Article citation box, and click on Search.

Specify date

You may narrow your search to documents published on a specific day or within the date range you specify.
Viewing search results
Search results appear in list view, with 40 article titles on each page. You can narrow down your results by adding terms in the Search within results box, on the left-hand side of the screen. Click on the title (in blue) to open the full text of the article. To go back to your original list of results, click on the View last search tab, in the top left corner. To edit the existing search, click on the icon in the top right corner of the screen.

Searching UK Journals Index
On the main Journals screen, select Journals Index (see image on the left) and complete the search form as for full text journals above.

If you are searching UK Journals Index, you will be provided with a brief summary of the article. Where the full text is not provided in Lexis®Library, you should check Primo, as it may be available in print or from another database.

Browsing UK legal journals
Although searching is the most common method of finding journal articles in Lexis®Library, it is not your only option. From the Journals page, you can select Browse, on the left-hand side of the screen. This will open a list of all UK subscribed journals. Scroll through the list to find the title you need, then click on the + symbol to find the year/volume/issue you require. Browse the Table of contents and click on the citation of the article, book review or editorial you need to open in full text.

2. International legal journals

Accessing international journals
Click on the Journals tab, then follow the link on the left-hand side to International Content to get access to international journal articles. Once you have clicked on International Content, you are directed to Lexis®Library International where you can search by jurisdiction and content type, or you can select jurisdiction and browse the available sources.

Searching for international journals
From the opening screen, you can search All available jurisdictions and content types. If you are interested in one particular jurisdiction and content, please click on the arrow next to ‘All’ in the search box to select your source.

International journals are available under Secondary Materials for every jurisdiction.

Enter your search terms in the search box and press Enter or click on the red magnifier glass icon.

For search tips, please follow the Search Help link above the top search bar.
Viewing search results

Search results appear in list view. You can narrow down your results by selecting Sources from the list on the left-hand side of the screen.

The documents are sorted by Relevance.

To change the order, please click on the arrow in the Sort by box and select Date (newest-oldest, oldest-newest) or Title (A-Z, Z-A).

Click on the title (in blue) to open the full text of the article.

Once you have opened a document, you have different delivery options: Print, Email, Download (either in PDF or Word file format) or Copy Link.

To go back to your original results page, use the back arrow in the top left corner of the page. To start a new search, click on the Lexis®Library International logo.

Browsing international legal journals

From the opening screen of Lexis®Library International, you have the option to browse international journals.

The default jurisdiction is Australia. You will find an alphabetical list of available sources on the left-hand side of the screen. Click on a journal title from this list, e.g. Australian Bar Review to get more information about the source, and to see its table of contents.

Select Canada, Hong Kong, Malaysia, etc., if you want to choose a different jurisdiction, and browse their available contents.
Logging off
To close Lexis®Library International, click on Close in the top right corner of the screen.
To exit the database, Lexis®Library, click on the icon in the top menu bar, and select the Sign Out link. Finally, click on OK.

Online tutorials
For contextual help, click on the icon in the top right corner of the screen, and select Help. Detailed user guides are available here.

Help
If you have any problem using this database or require further assistance, please contact:

Janet MacKay, Information Consultant (Law)  
Tel.: +44 (0)1224 273892  
Email: j.i.mackay@abdn.ac.uk

Nicola Will, Site Services Team Lead  
(Taylor Library)  
Tel.: +44 (0)1224 273166  
Email: n.will@abdn.ac.uk

Taylor Library Issue Desk  
Tel.: +44 (0)1224 272601  
Email: lawlib@abdn.ac.uk

IT Service Desk (for any access problem)  
Telephone: +44 (0)1224 273636  
Login to MyIT portal  
Email: servicedesk@abdn.ac.uk

You may also want to consult other Lexis®Library guides:

Lexis®Library - key features
Lexis®Library – searching for case law
Lexis®Library – searching for newspaper articles