Key Resources for Law

Contact details for further help are at the end of this guide.

The university libraries buy printed books and journals, and huge collections of electronic resources to help you to succeed with your university studies.

The best place to start your search is **Discover**, LJMU's single search tool, which provides you with easy access to thousands of books, journals, eBooks, e-journal articles, multimedia, and much more. You can access Discover and other key resources via the **Electronic Library** at: www.ljmu.ac.uk/library/e-library

Books & eBooks

Printed books for Law are available in the Aldham Robarts Library. A list of common shelf numbers for Law is below. Numbers are on the book spines and there are library signs to guide you, but if unsure please ask for help.

- Animal Law and Ethics   344.049
- Criminal Law   345
- Company Law   346.066
- Employment Law   344.01
- English Legal System   349.42
- Family Law   346.015
- Intellectual Property   346.048
- International Law   341
- Land and Property Law   346.043
- Legal Research   340.072
- Legal Theory   340.1
- Mooting   340.0711
- Public Law   342
- Sexual Offences   345.0253

You may browse our shelves to see what is available in your subject area or search using '**Discover**'. Remember that many electronic books (eBooks) are also available through Discover.

Journals

Journals are published regularly and contain up-to-date information. Journals contain articles focussing on specific topics written by subject specialists.

To find individual journal titles on your subject area:

- Go to **Discover**, if prompted, **Sign in** with your **LJMU username@ljmu.ac.uk** and **password**
- Select the **Journals** option.
- Type a journal title you wish to access and select the search icon.
- Select a journal-title to see more details and availability.
- eJournals will have links to view online.
- Print journals will show the number of issues and location.

Databases

You can search for journal articles using **Discover** or via individual databases. There are different types of databases. For example:

- **Full-text databases** provide access to full-text information such as journal articles, reports, book chapters, newspaper articles …
- **Abstracting and Indexing Databases** are searchable indexes, you can view the abstract or summary for each resource. If full-text is available follow the link, if not you can request an **Inter-library loan** at: https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/microsites/library/resources/access-to-other-libraries/inter-library-loan-service

To access a database:

- Go to **Discover**, if prompted, **Sign in** with your **LJMU username@ljmu.ac.uk** and **password**
- Select the **Databases** option.
- Select **Advance Educational Practice** to see suggested databases or type the name of the database in the search box and select the **search icon.**
- Select the database title to see more details and note any log-in requirements.
- Select the database link.

Main Law Databases
The databases below are listed in alphabetical order.

Halsbury's Laws of England
Encyclopaedia of Law in England and Wales, arranged by subject. It is useful to find the most important cases, legislation, and commentary in a particular area of law. Halsbury's law is available in print in the library and online via Lexis+

Hein Online
The database has several collections including the Law Journal Library, the Kluwer Law International Journal Library, and the English Reports. The Law Journal library contains the full text of more than 1,100 UK, US, and international law and law-related journals. Coverage is from the first issue published for all journals, giving access to older material. In some cases, the current issues are available but generally, the current year or volume is unavailable. Recent issues may be available in Westlaw Edge UK or Lexis+

Law Trove
A Law collection including access to 12 core texts for Criminology and Criminal Justice with linked additional materials.

Lexis+
Provides access to:
- a wide range of UK law reports (from 1865 onwards) and law reports from other countries including the EU.
- All UK Acts and Statutory Instruments currently in force.
- A wide range of full-text journal articles and journal article abstracts
- Practical Guidance and Practice Area interfaces
- Halsbury's Laws of England online
- UK newspapers

Lexis International Materials
The search screen for this is accessed from a link available in most Lexis Library tabs. Content includes primary & secondary sources from the US, Australia, Canada, India, Hong Kong, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, and more.

Practical Law

Legal guidance solution that provides lawyers and students with a quality-assured head start. Access standard documents, practice notes, checklists, legal updates, and articles - created and maintained by expert editors. Practical Law is also linked within Westlaw UK.

UK Parliamentary Papers

Offers the working documents of the British government for all areas of social, political, economic, and foreign policy. Contains:

- Bills and Acts 1695-2018
- Command Papers 1833-2018
- House of Commons Papers 1715-2018
- House of Lords Papers 1714-1805
- Hansard 1803-2005
- Journals 1688-1834
- Debates 1774-1805
- Histories and Proceedings 1660-1743

Westlaw Edge UK

Provides access to a wide range of UK law reports (from 1865 onwards) and law reports from other countries including the EU. All UK Acts and Statutory Instruments currently in force.
A wide range of full-text journal articles and journal article abstracts. Also "Topic Guide's for getting started on new areas of Law.

Westlaw International

Westlaw International Materials (IM) contains legal publications and documentation relating to the United States, Canada, Australia, and a few other jurisdictions. It also has international law content.

Social Science Databases

Criminal Justice Abstracts with Full Text

Contains full-text journals for criminology; criminal justice; criminal law and procedure; corrections and prisons; police and policing; criminal investigation, history of crime, and more.

BBC Monitoring

Monitors round-the-clock TV, radio, press, internet, news agency and social media sources in the UK and worldwide, providing 'real time' international news updates, analytical reports and an extensive archive of geopolitical information dating back to 1996.
* Terrorism Digest - A daily summary of reports regarding Jihadist and other terrorist activity, and counter-terrorism operations.

JSTOR

Provides access to more than 12 million academic journal articles, books, and primary sources in 75 disciplines.

Oxford Scholarship Law eBook Collection

Wide-ranging Law eBook collection from OUP.

Policing Insight

Relevant and up-to-date policing news publication, also providing a platform to share knowledge, insight, and opinion. Firstly, 'Register', choose a username, and use the LJMU email address. Select

the link in the 'Welcome email' to validate your account and set a password. You see 'Hello [username], your access is SUBSCRIBER via Liverpool John Moores University'.

If you do not receive the welcome email, check your spam folder, or contact: enquiries@policinginsight.com for assistance. You then have full access to all PI content, which is marked 'OPEN' when logged in. Log in each time for full access. Once registered you receive a weekly newsletter.

ProQuest Central
Provides access to databases across all major subject areas and includes thousands of full-text scholarly journals, trade and professional titles, newspapers, magazines, dissertations, working papers, case studies, and market reports.

Taylor and Francis
A multidisciplinary database providing full-text access to quality, peer-reviewed journals published by Taylor & Francis, Routledge, and Psychology Press.

Abstract and Index Databases

Scopus
Multi-disciplinary abstract and citation database of peer-reviewed literature: journals, books, and conference proceedings, many with links to full text.

Web of Science
A powerful research platform and global citation index including over 161 million records for books, peer-reviewed scholarly journals, and conference proceedings across 254 disciplines. It includes access to the Arts and Humanities Citation Index (1975-), Science Citation Index Expanded (1970-), and Social Sciences Citation Index Expanded (1970-). It also contains citation data, for example: journal impact factors and h-index to help you identify quality research.

Media Databases

Box of Broadcasts
Box of Broadcasts (BoB) gives you access to an archive of over one million TV and radio programmes from 2007 onwards, including all the main free-to-air TV channels. You can link and make short clips and playlists of content. Provides streaming access to over 25,000 films, documentaries, and educational videos. New content is added every month.

Current News & News Archives including:
Guardian and Observer Digital Archive 1791-2003; Gale News Vault; Daily Express, Star, Mirror, Independent & FT.com; Times Digital Archive, 1785-2010; New York Times, Washington Post

Factiva
Provides news from over 10,000 sources, including the Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, Dow Jones and Reuter's newswires, and the Associated Press. Produced as a source of business information, it also contains articles from international (and British) newspapers, including national and regional titles, broadsheets, and tabloids.

Kanopy Film
Social Science collection includes Law, Criminal Justice, Race…

Lexis+
Access to up-to-date legislation, case law, commentary, and full-text and abstract of a wide range of legal journal articles. The News tab contains an archive of UK national and regional newspapers, with coverage from the 1990s up to the present day.

Sage Video

LJMU has access to the Criminology & Criminal Justice Collection of academic videos aimed at all Levels from UG to Researchers.

Websites

The content of websites is unregulated. Therefore, you must check the quality and accuracy of the information on the internet to ensure that it is reliable, accurate, and of an academic standard. There are selected websites or search engines that you can use to help find appropriate information online, for example, Google Scholar. If you find details for a relevant resource on the internet, you can check if LJMU has full-text access.

British and Irish Legal Information Institute (BAILII)

http://www.bailii.org/

Provides access to freely available British, Irish, and European Union primary legal materials, including case transcripts and legislation, and many tribunal decisions. It also provides links to other international legal databases.

Legislation.gov.uk

https://www.legislation.gov.uk/

The **Frequently Asked Questions** section contains details of the legislation coverage on the site as well as details on how up-to-date the information is. Check **Lexis Library** or **Westlaw** for up-to-date information about what is 'in force'.

Eur-Lex

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html

Provides free access to the Official Journal of the European Union, EU law (EU treaties, directives, regulations, decisions, consolidated legislation, etc.), preparatory acts (legislative proposals, reports, green and white papers, etc.), EU case law (judgments, orders, etc.), international agreements, EFTA documents, and summaries of EU legislation, which put legal acts into a policy context, explained in plain language.

Court of Justice of the European Union (CURIA)

https://curia.europa.eu/jcms/jcms/Jo1_6308/

Provides free access to European Union case law, via the CURIA database.

European Court of Human Rights (ECHR)

https://www.echr.coe.int/Pages/home.aspx?p=home&c=

Provides free access to European Court of Human Rights case law, via the HUDOC database.

Law Library of Congress – Nations of the World - Guide to Law online

https://www.loc.gov/research-centers/law-library-of-congress/researcher-resources/guide-to-law-online/

Amongst the useful Researcher guides provided by the Law Library of Congress is this useful guide to sources for Law online for jurisdictions not covered by Legal Databases.

Parliament UK

https://www.parliament.uk/business/

The website provides access to the House of Commons and the House of Lords publications, Hansard (Official report of all parliamentary debates), details of Bills before parliament, legislation, research publications, parliamentary archives, and more.

Parliament Research Briefings

https://researchbriefings.parliament.uk/

Briefings for members of the Houses of Commons and Lords produced by the House of Commons library. Useful for the history of topics coming through, facts, statistics…etc.

Legal Abbreviations

All Law Report Series and Legal Journals have accepted abbreviations. The abbreviations are used in OSCOLA referencing OR you may need to find out what the abbreviation stands for, to find the full text of a case or an article. The Cardiff Index to Legal Abbreviations at www.legalabbrevs.cardiff.ac.uk covers from title to abbreviation and vice versa.

Referencing

Law uses the numerical footnote system known as the Oxford Standard for the Citation of Legal Authorities (OSCOLA) – (not the Harvard Referencing System) - for footnotes, setting out bibliographies and lists of references to books, journal articles, etc.

Our library page for Referencing https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/microsites/library/skills-ljmu/referencing-and-endnote links to the authoritative guides on this referencing system provided by the Universities of Oxford and Cardiff. Click on 'Alternative referencing styles by subject' to find the Law referencing link.

Further Help

The Academic Engagement Librarian for Law is:
Olugbenga Oke: O.C.Oke@ljmu.ac.uk

Please contact him to arrange a one-to-one appointment.

Guide by: Olugbenga Oke
Updated: September 2024