Library Orientation
Searching Legal Resources
Using Lexis Nexis

Chabot College Library Website: www.chabotcollege.edu/library

Lexis-Nexis is a database that contains many search screens. For this assignment, you will be searching in the legal and news search forms. If you are conducting search that involves a particular company, then you would use the business search form.

Direct Search forms and URL’s:

**New LexisNexis Interface**—Works on campus only
http://tinyurl.com/y8r3cph

**Court Cases**—The text of actual State and Federal Court opinions
http://tinyurl.com/2e9my7

**Law Reviews**—For more legal analysis (including on court opinions)
http://tinyurl.com/2p3quy

**Statutes**—Codes, Constitutions, Etc.
http://tinyurl.com/2vlx4t

**Lexis-Nexis News Form**
Use the Select Sources Menu below to search U.S. News, World News, or Business News Publications.

**Lexis-Nexis Business**—Select a company, find recent legal info.
http://tinyurl.com/2jhko5

If you start at the Library home page, go to Magazines, Journals, Newspaper Articles and select LexisNexis Academic you go directly to the News Form.

**Using the News Form** http://tinyurl.com/22dgo8

The Lexis-Nexis news form allows you to find newspaper, magazine, and newsletter articles to many topics.
Use “Select Sources” to search all News, Major World Newspapers, or Business News Publications.

And make sure you specify the date range you are seeking (picture on left).

When you get to your Results list (picture below), and you have a lot of results, you can enter more terms to narrow your search (top right), re-sort your results from Publication Date to Relevance (top left), and you can change your Results Group to Subject (left column).
When browsing subjects on the left, click on them when you think you have found one relevant to your search.

Legal Research: Getting a Court Case  [http://tinyurl.com/2e9my7](http://tinyurl.com/2e9my7)

To get to Lexis Nexis Legal Information, go to Magazines, Journals, Newspaper Articles, select LexisNexis Academic under All Subjects, select Legal from the top menu bar, and then on the right side, select “Federal and State Cases.”

Enter your search terms in the top message box –when you have more than one, be sure to put the Connector, “and” in between your terms, such as: deceptive advertising AND product liability. Use Select Source to narrow down your search if you wish (for example, you may only want to search California state cases). Make sure you remember to specify your date below, otherwise you will search all dates (including any U.S. Supreme Court rulings from the 1800’s).
When you look at your results of court cases, the name of the court case will be listed first. In caps will be the name of the court that heard the particular case, and toward the end of the citation will be the date the decision comes down.

To quickly scan your results, go to the shaded areas in your court cases. They will give you an Procedural Posture (what brought on the case), an overview of what the case was about, and the outcome, the decision handed down from that court.

**CASE SUMMARY**

**PROCEDURAL POSTURE:** Plaintiff, decedent's representative, appealed a ruling of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama dismissing his cigarette product liability and related claims for wrongful death against defendant tobacco companies under Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(6).

**OVERVIEW:** Plaintiff alleged his decedent wife became addicted to the nicotine in cigarettes while unaware she was becoming addicted or that they were addictive. She eventually contracted lung cancer and died. Plaintiff filed suit against defendant tobacco companies in state court, seeking recovery under the Alabama wrongful death statute based on the defendants' alleged wrongful acts and omissions in connection with the manufacture, design and sale of cigarettes, bringing claims under the Alabama Extended Manufacturers Liability Doctrine, and for negligence, wantonness, breach of warranty of fitness, and conspiracy to fraudulently suppress information concerning addiction. After defendants removed, the district court dismissed the entire complaint under Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(6). The court of appeals certified a number of issues to the state supreme court. It was unclear when the statute of...
Legal Research: Law Reviews  http://tinyurl.com/2p3quy

In addition to searching for analysis in EBSCOhost, and newspapers and business news searches, you can also get detailed analysis through the many scholarly law publications in LexisNexis (called Law Reviews).

To get there: Library home page—Magazines, Journals, Newspaper Articles—All Subjects—LexisNexis Academic—Legal.

Enter your search terms, being sure to use the connector, AND, in between each such as: music AND file sharing AND copyright

Under Select Sources, you can select a certain type of law such as Corporation Law, Commercial Law, Labor Law, Property Law, International Law, Legal Ethics, Environmental Law, or Intellectual Property Law.

![LexisNexis Academic](https://example.com/lexisnexis.png)

Results for Law Reviews are a bit different in that the name of the source (the journal) from where the article came from appears first as a link, the title of the article and author are stated later in the citation.


To find individual U.S. codes, state codes, or other types of statutes, once you are in LexisNexis, be sure to click “Legal Research” from the navigation bar, and then select “Federal and state Codes” on the right.

Once you are in, be sure to combine your search terms with the Connector “And” in between such as:

sexual orientation AND discrimination

Be sure to Select Sources (in this database, you NEED to select one) such as California Codes (listed below).

Results identify particular rules, codes, or other particular statutes. Links identify either a particular region or particular source.
As always, remember to look at the column on the left for subjects or particular key publications. You can narrow your search down quickly to find relevant information you may be seeking.

LexisNexis Business: Company Search  http://tinyurl.com/2jhko5

Enter your company name in the top box.

Select a company from the Results list that matches the one you are seeking.
Select Legal Information (or in some cases “Intellectual Property Information”) listed under “Reports” on the left side.

Select the region and you will then be led to a list of results.

Print/Email/Save

In LexisNexis, you will only print, Email, or save documents successfully if you click on the related icon on the top right of your document’s screen. Otherwise, you may run into problems and not have printed, Emailed or saved your document successfully.