

OCU Law Library's Legal Periodical Indexes

Initial Considerations

- Coverage – How Far Back Does Your Index Go?
- What Does it Index – Titles, Subjects?
- If it is Electronic What Does it Search – Titles Only or Full Text?

Print Indexes

Index to Legal Periodicals

(1886 – present) Available on the tables in the first floor south wing of the Library. Indexes approximately 600 English-language periodicals. Features include: Table of Abbreviations; List of Subject Headings; Author/Subject Index (combined); Table of Cases; Table of Statutes; and, Book Review Index. Early 1980s – present available electronically through Wilson's Index to Legal Periodicals, Lexis library (LAWREV;ILP) and the Westlaw database (ILP).

Current Law Index

(1981 – 2000) Available on the tables in the first floor south wing of the Library. Created because *Index to Legal Periodicals* was not indexing all available periodicals. Indexes approximately 850 worldwide legal periodicals, including practice-oriented periodicals. Features include: Subject/Proper Name Index (separate); Author/Title Index (separate); Table of Cases; and, Table of Statutes. Available electronically through LegalTrac and the Westlaw database (LRI).

Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals

(1960 – present) Available on the tables in the first floor south wing of the Library. This index contains references to books and articles about international law and comparative law and the laws of countries other than the United States, the British Isles and the British Commonwealth, whose systems have a common law basis.

Electronic Sources

Wilson's Index to Legal Periodicals – This electronic version of the *Index to Legal Periodicals* indexes over 1000 legal journals and over 1400 monographs. Coverage begins in 1981. Does not search the full text of articles only the author, title, subject and other bibliographic information. Does not provide the full text of articles just citations to them. Offers thesaurus feature that lets you search by subject. Click thesaurus from the left hand side of the screen and enter "torts" for an example. Accessible from the Law Library's databases page, off campus with the user name and password students use to log on in the computer labs and from the Lexis library (LAWREV;ILP) and the Westlaw database (ILP).

LegalTrac – This electronic equivalent of *Current Law Index* contains over 800 major law reviews, legal newspapers, bar association journals and international legal journals and over 1000 business and general interest titles. Slightly more than 100 of these titles are included in full text. Searches author, title, subject and other bibliographic information and the full text of journals included in full text. Generally has article from the early 1980's. LegalTrac offers a thesaurus feature called subject guide that allow searching by subject and shows subdivisions and related subjects. Click subject guide on the left hand side of the screen and enter “torts” for an example. Accessible from the Law Library's databases page and off campus with the user name and password students use to log on in the computer labs.

Hein Online – Searches the full text of article in its database but searching is slow. Best used when you know a citation and need to pull up an article. Best feature is that it provides full coverage of all issues of periodicals within its database and contains the actual page image from the law review. Accessible from the Law Library's databases page and off campus with the user name and password students use to log on in the computer labs.

Lexis – Searches the full text of law review articles from the early 1980's. The database (ALLUS) will search all U.S. law journals available. Searching within subject specific databases is available.

Westlaw – Searches the full text of law review articles from the early 1980's. The database (TP-ALL) will search all U.S. law journals available. The database (LRI) searches titles available in *Current Law Index*. Searching within subject specific databases is available.