

Finding Articles in Legal Periodicals (Law Reviews & Legal Journals)

- **FIRST, LOOK FOR A FULL-TEXT ARTICLE ONLINE**

Searching for articles in full-text databases

- Lexis and Westlaw
 - Lexis – Secondary Legal > Law Review & Journals > U.S. Law Reviews & Journals Combined
 - Westlaw – Legal Periodicals and Current Awareness > Journals and Law Reviews (JLR)
 - Can do complicated Terms & Connectors searches
 - Coverage in both services only extends back to approximately the early 1980's
- HeinOnline
 - Found on Deane Law Library's Online Resources Web page
 - Coverage for most journals goes back to their inception; however, the current year often is not available
- Non-legal articles
 - There are many sources located online in Axinn Databases, arranged both alphabetically and by subject; a link appears on Deane Law Library's Online Resources Webpage
 - Some suggested databases are:
 - JSTOR – an archive of the full-text PDF files for more than 700 journals from various academic disciplines, including economics, finance, history, philosophy, political science, and sociology. It does not include current documents, *i.e.*, those between one to five years old.
 - Academic Search Premier – world's largest academic multidisciplinary database; includes full-text articles from over 4,650 serials
 - New York Times Historical – 1851-2004

- **SECOND, LOOK FOR A CITATION TO AN ARTICLE IN AN INDEX**

An index will usually give you only a citation and perhaps an abstract to an article. It is useful because often there is greater coverage of journals/years in an index

- Hofstra has subscriptions to both *Index to Legal Periodicals* and *LegalTrac*
- *Index to Legal Periodicals* and *Current Law Index* also are available in hard copy in the periodicals room
- The links to both can be found on the Deane Law library's Online Resources Web page
- They both have advanced search options
- Indexes may be searched by keyword, subject, author, or title, or by a combination of these, if you are in "guided search".

- After finding a citation, you must then find the full-text of the article (see section below). However, sometimes these indexes do provide full-text results
 - The coverage of these indexes goes back only to approximately 1980
 - If you are looking for articles dealing with foreign or international law, then you may want to use the Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals, the link to which can also be found on our Online Resources Web page
- **THIRD, ONCE YOU HAVE THE CITATION FROM THE INDEX, FIND THE ARTICLE**
 - **Finding articles when you have a citation**
 - Use Hofstra online catalog (Lexicat) to find paper copy of periodical in the Deane Law Library
 - Do a title search using the title of the Journal (not the article)
 - Note the Call Number in the result
 - Go downstairs to the periodicals room and locate the call number on the shelves. Find the volume (the number to the left of the citation) of the periodical and then open to the page (the number to the right of the citation), and there is your article
 - HeinOnline
 - Click “Title Lookup” under the “About Our Content” menu
 - Type the title of the publication and click the magnifying glass icon, or click “Browse All Titles” and see whether your journal is listed
 - If so, then click it, enter the volume and page you need, and click “Go”.
 - Lexis and Westlaw
 - In Lexis, go to “Get a Document” and type in the citation
 - In Westlaw, go to “Find and Print” and type in the citation
 - If your article is pre-1980, then you will need to use a paper copy or HeinOnline.
 - If the article is new, then you will probably find it most easily on Lexis/ Westlaw, and perhaps in paper.
 - Non-law Articles – Use Journal Finder
 - From the University Libraries page, click Journal Finder under “Finding Information”
 - Type the name of the journal at the top of the page next to “title begins with” and click search
 - The results page offers a list of all databases that contain the journal; it also notes whether it is in Hofstra University Print Holdings in paper and/or microfilm. Dates for all titles are given.
 - If the journal your article is in is included in a Hofstra database for the proper years, then you can click the database name and find your article directly from there.