**Guide To Interdisciplinary Research In The Social Sciences**

*This research handout covers sources that are related to, but outside of, traditional legal research, including economics, political science, psychology, and other social science disciplines. Because legal scholarship has become increasingly interdisciplinary, researchers must know how to find materials in these related areas.*

**Note on Individual Journal Titles**

To determine whether the library has access to a particular journal title in electronic format, use Axinn Library’s Journal Finder. If you cannot find a title there, then it may be available only in print. Search by the publication's title in the LEXICAT online catalog, which is accessible from the Law Library’s home page.

**Journal and Periodical Databases**

Your best source of databases on interdisciplinary topics is the Axinn Library's list of resources by subject. To access these databases, log in to the Hofstra portal, and then click “Library” on the left. The links direct you to particular resources in various academic disciplines.

**Social Sciences**

***Comprehensive/General Databases****:*

* **Academic Search Complete**: Provides full text for over 4,000 publications. Academic areas of study include the social sciences, the humanities, education, computer sciences, engineering, language and linguistics, arts & literature, medical sciences, and ethnic studies.
* **Science Direct**: Searchable full-text collection of academic journals, encyclopedias, and textbooks.
* **JSTOR**: Searchable full-text collection of back files of core scholarly journals. Many journals go back to the 1800s. Many social science journals are available.
* **ProQuest—Political Science/Social Science/Sociology:** Searchable indexes and abstracts for more than 1,800 general publications that pertain to social science subjects. Contains the full text of articles for many of the periodicals.
* **Project Muse**: Searchable database of complete articles from the John Hopkins University Press's more than forty scholarly journals in the humanities and social sciences.
* **Sociological Abstracts:** Sociology and Social and Behavioral Sciences. Some full text. Articles, books, chapters, book reviews, conference proceedings, and dissertations.

**History**

* **America: History and Life**: Extensive index of scholarship in the field of American history.
* **Historical Abstracts**: Includes abstracts of articles covering world history from 1450 to present.

**Economics**

***Periodical Databases***

* **Econlit**: This is a major source for scholarly articles and books on the subject of economics.
* **Business Source Premier:** This database contains business and economics materials, including articles and reports, mostly in full text.

**Finding Data and Statistics in Economics**

* [**Links to Stat-USA File Sources**](http://johnson.library.cornell.edu/node/304): Provided by the Cornell University Management Library, this collection of links covers the content of the former Stat-USA Internet database, a single point of access to authoritative business, trade, and economic information from across the federal government. (http://johnson.library.cornell.edu/node/304)

**Psychology**

***Books***

To find books on psychology, search LEXICAT. Try "Subject" searches that include the term *psychology* and other terms related to your research. For example:

* Cognitive psychology
* Psychology -- witnesses
* Law -- psychological aspects
* Psychology -- pathological

***Periodical Databases***

* **PsycINFO**: The primary index to the literature of psychology and its related fields. Since 1887 covers journal articles, and since 1987, books and book chapters. International in scope, topics include psychological aspects of related disciplines, such as medicine, psychiatry, nursing, sociology, education, pharmacology, physiology, linguistics, anthropology, business, and law.

Adapted from Georgetown Law Library (updated 8/2013)