POLITICAL SCIENCE 400:  
Moot Court

Finding Background / Historical Overview Information

The following print and online resources will provide helpful background information on a wide variety of legal-related topics. The print titles are arranged in call number order in the reference section, and the online databases can be accessed through the A–Z list on the library web site.


**United States Reports: Cases Adjudged in the Supreme Court**  REF KF 101 .A212 online [https://www.supremecourt.gov/](https://www.supremecourt.gov/)

**American Justice**  REF KF 154 .A44 1996

**Encyclopedia of the American Judicial System**  REF KF 154 .E53 1987

**Oxford Companion to American Law**  REF KF 154 .O96 2002


**Black’s Law Dictionary**  REF KF 156 .B53 1999

**Great American Court Cases**  REF KF 835 .A4 G68 1999 online [Credo Reference](https://www.credoreference.com/)

**Magill’s Legal Guide**  REF KF 385 .M35 2000

**Gale Encyclopedia of Everyday Law**  REF KF 387 .G27 2006 online [Credo Reference](https://www.credoreference.com/)


**Encyclopedia of the American Constitution**  REF 4548 .E53

**Encyclopedia of American Civil Liberties**  REF KF 4747.5 .E53


[Credo Reference](https://www.credoreference.com/)


Finding Legal Information in Databases

**JSTOR**  
Scholarly articles and books; includes a substantial law component.

**Legal Collection**  
The same user interfaces as [Academic Search Complete](https://www.galevirtualreference.com/login?url=https://search.galegroup.com/)

**New York Times**  
Good background and analysis for the general reader; you need to make an account to use it. The hyperlink in this guide takes you to the registration form.
**Nexis Uni**
One of the main legal information databases. Also contains newspapers and business information. In addition to the demo today, you might also want to look at these tutorials:

*How to Search from the Home Page* [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_MUED6Lo13M](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_MUED6Lo13M)

*How to Search the Advanced Search Form* [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OSqSZTCGyc0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OSqSZTCGyc0)

**Some Useful Websites**

- **FindLaw** [https://www.findlaw.com/](https://www.findlaw.com/)
- **Justicia** [https://law.justia.com/](https://law.justia.com/)
- **Legal Information Institute** (Cornell Law School) [https://www.law.cornell.edu/](https://www.law.cornell.edu/)
- **Supreme Court of the United States** [https://www.supremecourt.gov/](https://www.supremecourt.gov/)
- **Supreme Court of Virginia** [http://www.courts.state.va.us/courts/scv/home.html](http://www.courts.state.va.us/courts/scv/home.html)
- **Tennessee Code Unannotated** [https://advance.lexis.com/container?config=014CJA5ZGVtJIA3NS02MmMzLTRlZWQ3OGJjNC00YzQ1MmZINzc2YNYKAFvZENhdGFsb2e9zYpNUITRaWVlyuru9ud&crid=545ce910-ed55-4150-b737-074980d2d472](https://advance.lexis.com/container?config=014CJA5ZGVtJIA3NS02MmMzLTRlZWQ3OGJjNC00YzQ1MmZINzc2YNYKAFvZENhdGFsb2e9zYpNUITRaWVlyuru9ud&crid=545ce910-ed55-4150-b737-074980d2d472)
- **TNCOURTS.gov : Courts** [http://www.tncourts.gov/courts](http://www.tncourts.gov/courts)
- **TNCOURTS.gov : Supreme Court** [http://www.tncourts.gov/courts/supreme-court](http://www.tncourts.gov/courts/supreme-court)
- **Virginia Courts in Brief** [http://www.courts.state.va.us/courts/cib.pdf](http://www.courts.state.va.us/courts/cib.pdf)
- **Virginia General Assembly LIS** [https://law.lis.virginia.gov/](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/)
- **Virginia’s Judicial System** [http://www.courts.state.va.us/courts/maps/home.html](http://www.courts.state.va.us/courts/maps/home.html)

**Interlibrary Loan**
You may find citations to articles and books that are not accessible in Kelly Library. In those cases, you may wish to use the [interlibrary loan](https://www.ehc.edu/live/profiles/483-janet-kirby) service. If you have questions about this service, please speak with a librarian (Jane, Janet, Jody, or Ruth)

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