

Principles of Legal Research

Week 6: Oct. 14-17

Cecilia Tellis, Law Librarian
Brian Dickson Law Library



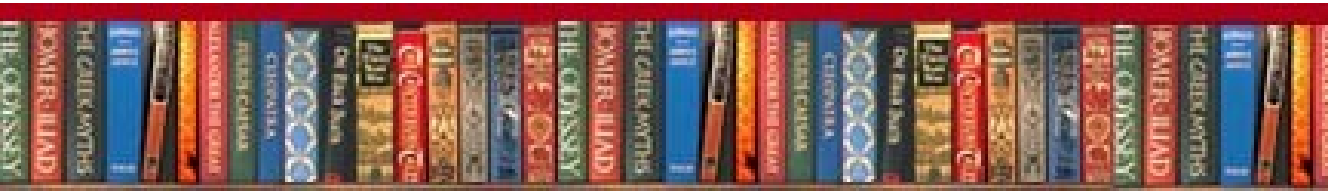
Outline

- Selecting periodical articles
- More secondary sources
 - Annotated statutes/codes
 - Dictionaries
 - Directories
 - Encyclopedias
 - Newspaper articles
 - Legal gateway sites



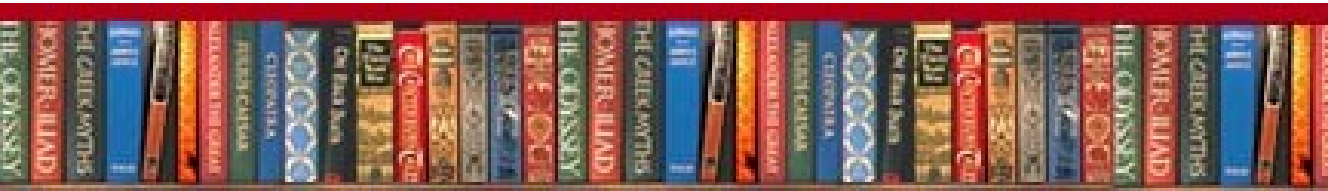
Selecting periodical articles

- **Factors to keep in mind:**
 - Coverage: does the article focus on your research topic and cover it thoroughly?
 - Currency: is the article fairly recent so that its research and analysis are still current?
 - Credibility: is the journal peer-reviewed? Reputable author? Well-respected periodical?
 - Quality of research and analysis: do footnotes refer to sufficient authority to support propositions?
 - Persuasiveness: are arguments logical and convincing?



Annotated statutes

- normally only in print format
- contain references to legislation and case law
- Some available through WestlaweCarswell
 - E.g. CriminalSource tab > Browse Tables of Contents > Commentary
- How to find annotated statutes/codes in our catalog



Dictionaries: print

General (Canada)

- *Pocket dictionary of Canadian law* [[REF KE 183 .D84 2002](#)]
- *The Dictionary of Canadian Law*, 2nd ed. [[REF KE 183 D83 2004](#)]
- *Canadian law dictionary*, 4th ed. [[REF KE 183 Y63 1998](#)]

General (United States)

- *Black's Law Dictionary*, 8th ed. [[REF KF 156 .B53 2004](#)]
also available through Westlaw [Database ID: BLACKS]



Dictionaries: online

- See our [listing of legal and other dictionaries online](#).



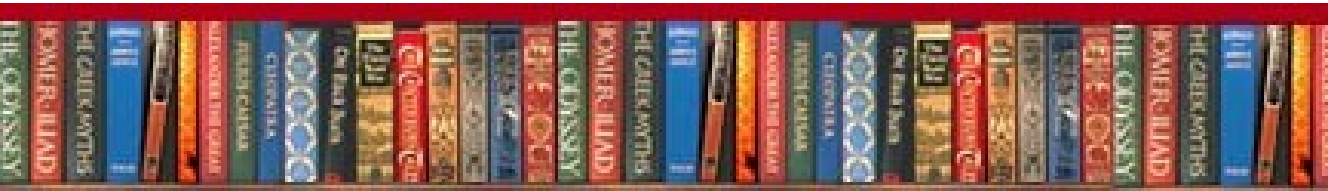
Legal Directories

- Use for finding contact information of legal professionals, legal services (e.g. transcribers), etc.
 - *Canadian Law List* [[KE 211. C3](#)] or [online](#)
 - *Martindale-Hubbell international law directory* [[REF KF 190 .M36](#)] or [online](#)
 - *Martindale-Hubbell law directory* [[REF KF 190 .M357](#)]
 - [Lawyers.com](#)



Legal Encyclopedias

- helpful if you are unfamiliar with a specific jurisdiction or a general legal topic
- In Canada, the main legal encyclopedia is the *Canadian Encyclopedic Digest* (C.E.D.)
 - Ontario edition [[REF KEO 142 C33](#)]
 - Western edition (covers the four Western provinces) [[REF KE 156.2 .W43](#)].
- The C.E.D. is also available through the LawSource service of WestlaweCarswell



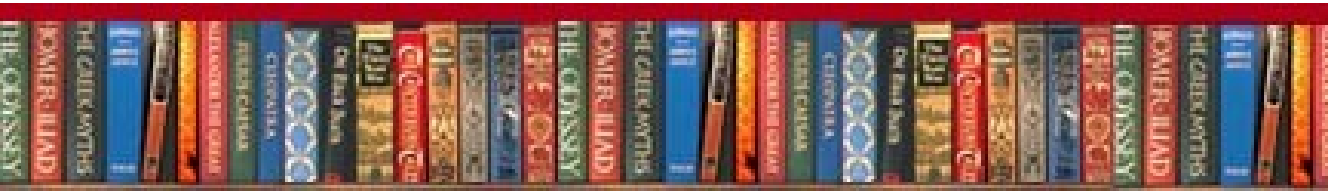
Newspaper articles

- Many newspapers now have an archive of articles online on their own websites
- Not finding it online? Check the uOttawa library's **newspaper databases**
 - Examples:
 - Canadian Newsstand
 - Factiva



Legal Gateway Sites

- **BUBL Link**: selected Internet resources covering all academic subject areas including **Law**
- **Intute: Law**: provides guidance and access to global legal information resources on the Internet




Legal blogs > blawgs

- Definition: a web log or online “diary” that is focused on the law and law-related topics
- **Blawg**
 - a directory of legal blogs
 - “Your Source for Legal Blogs, Podcasts & News Feeds”



Other Law Databases

 **uOttawa** University of Ottawa • Canada's university

About U of O Prospective Students Students Services Academics Research News & Events Alumni & Friends

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Brian Dickson Law Library

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Chief Justice Brian Dickson
The Faculty of Law at the University of Ottawa is proud to name the law library the Brian Dickson Law Library and grateful to Mrs. Barbara Dickson, her family and friends for supporting the construction of the beautiful [Brian Dickson Reading Room](#) to honour the late [Chief Justice Brian Dickson](#).

Brian Dickson Reading Room

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Search

- Catalogue
- Law Databases**
- E-Journals (A-Z)
- Legal Resources on the Web
- Online Research Services
- and more...

Plus...

- Common Law Section
- Civil Law Section
- Human Rights Documentation Centre
- Law Computer Labs
- Course Reserve

Keyword
Search

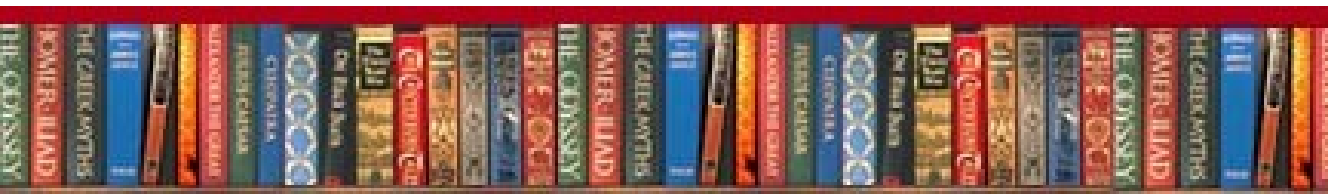
Direct access to:

- [Azimut/SOQUII](#)
- [LexisNexis/Quicklaw](#)
- [REJB/DCL](#)
- [WestlaweCarswell](#)

What's New!
[New databases:](#)
[House of Commons](#)
[Parliamentary](#)
[Papers, Erudit, &](#)

Legal Scholarship Network

- Scholarly information (articles, working papers, etc.) related to law for legal, economics and business scholars and practitioners throughout the world.



HeinOnline

- Digital archives of legal information consisting of several full-text collections
 - The Law Library Journal - over 400 legal scholarly journals
 - Exact scan of journal pages [PDFs]



Assignment #3: Secondary sources

- Available on the course wiki at:
<http://legalresearchprinciples.pbwiki.com/Exercises+>
 - Based on material covered in Week 5 & Week 6
 - To be submitted in class during **Week 7** (Oct. 20-24)

