

## Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe features

- Excellent source of full-text legal, business, and news information
- Full-text **broadcast** news transcripts
- Does not include graphics

## Accessing and Using Lexis-Nexis

1. From the library's home page (lib.umflint.edu), under "Resources," click *Periodicals: Indexes and Full Text*.
2. In the left margin of the resulting page, click *Lexis-Nexis Academic*.
3. Select a database to search from the list on the left (broad information categories include: news, business information, legal information, medical information, and reference sources)

## Searching Databases within Lexis-Nexis Academic

### **News**

1. Select a **news category** from the drop-down menu (required). Available categories include: **World news** (which can be narrowed by geographical area), **U.S. News** (which can be narrowed by state), **Today's News** (which covers breaking stories), **Newswires** (for example, UPI or Associated Press), or **Transcripts** (including broadcast radio and television networks)
2. Select a **news source** (required). Based on the news category selected in step one, this drop-down menu will display the available choices. For example, in the category **Transcripts**, the source list includes all available television and radio news networks.
3. Enter search terms in the boxes, and select the field(s) in which you want the terms to appear using the drop-down menu on the right. For example, enter "computer virus" and choose "Headline" as the field to be searched. Note: **phrases do not have to be enclosed in quotes** (that is, two or more words entered into one box will automatically be searched as a phrase).
4. Limit search by date, if appropriate. Click search.

### **Business**

Many types of business information are available within Lexis-Nexis' business database, including company profiles and financial reports, accounting literature, business news and SEC filings. Search methods will vary with the type of information for which you are looking. See **Tips** (link in upper right corner of display) for specific search instructions related to the type of search you are doing.

## **Legal Research**

Includes the following types of information and others. Search methods, again, will vary with the type of information for which you are looking. See **Tips** (link in upper right corner of display) for specific search instructions for each type of information.

- *Federal Case Law* – Supreme, appeals, and district court decisions and Supreme Court briefs; various specialized federal court decisions
- *Legal News* – Law and business journals; not general newspapers
- *State Legal Research* – High and appellate court decisions; laws (codes), new laws (Advanced Legislative Service), constitutions, and court rules
- *U.S. Code, Constitution, Court Rules* – Constitution, laws (codes), regulations, federal acquisitions regulations, attorney general opinions, and court rules

## **Medical**

Includes the following databases:

- *General Medical and Health Topics* – a short list of medical and health journals, full text
- *Medical Abstracts* – MEDLINE from the National Library of Medicine. Bibliographic database indexing 3500 worldwide medical journals; no full text.

## **Reference**

- *Biographical Information* – Biographies appearing in biographical dictionaries (e.g. *Who's Who*, business and popular magazines, and major newspapers)
- *Country Profiles* – Basic statistical data, description of government, key government officials, and a few biographies. Search by name of country.
- *Reference and Directories* – Business directories and quotations
- *State Profiles* – Geography and symbols, basic population, health, tax, and miscellaneous information for states and territories

## **Tips**

1. Use the Quick News Search if you know some specifics about your topic (e.g. place name, person name), otherwise use Guided Search.
2. Dates: "previous six months" will be searched as a default; use the pop-up menu to change the search dates.
3. "Guided Search" allows for the logical operators, AND, and OR, and several "adjacency" searches (that is, you may indicate that you want your terms to appear within a specified number of words from each other).
4. Words entered into one box will automatically be searched as a phrase.
5. When using "Guided Search," the default search of "Headline, Lead Paragraph and Terms" will usually give you the **best results**.
6. Generally avoid searching "Full Text"; it usually returns too many results to be useful.