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If you have trouble accessing the LexisNexis Academic database, contact one of your school librarians. If they need to speak with someone at LexisNexis, please have them call 1-800-227-9597, ext. 54846.

LexisNexis Academic contains a plethora of US and international news content. Academic is the perfect place to start if you are writing a term paper or simply doing news research for a topic in class. All news content inside Academic is indexed and re-indexed every quarter so that users can search with precision and find the specific news articles they need.

In this user guide, you will learn how to get the most out of Academic’s news collection by using the index and different search forms to construct your searches.

See the following pages for the User Guides included:

1. Use the Index to Research Topics
2. Find an Article by Headline, Byline, or Date
3. Find Critical Reviews
4. Find an Obituary
5. Find an Editorial or Opinion Piece
6. Find Foreign Language News
7. Search a Specific Source
8. Research a Public Figure
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Use the Index to Research Topics:

As all news articles are indexed to highlight major topics, using the index to research a specific topic is a smart idea. This strategy below will help you use the index to narrow down your results list to only those articles that are most relevant to your search. Start on the Advanced Options section of the main page.

**Search Strategy:**
1. Click the Advanced Options Section
2. Click on the Look Up Index Terms link and a new window will pop up
3. Type a word that relates to your search. In the image above, the word "Baseball" is used. Click the red Find button
4. In this example, "Baseball" refers to a subject, so scroll to the bottom of the list for subject results. Click the appropriate box for "Baseball"
5. Click the red OK-Add to Search button to include this index term
6. Click Apply
7. Click Search

After you complete the rest of your search, you will find that the index term "Baseball" should appear at the bottom of documents on your hit list.
Find an Article by Publication Name, Headline, Byline, or Date:

When your professor gives you a specific article to find, the Build Your Own Segment Search on LexisNexis Academic’s search forms gives you the capability to quickly narrow your search to a section of the article.

Search Strategy:
1. Click on the Advanced Options section on the main page below the Academic Search box.
2. Type in any information you might have about the article you’re seeking. Use the date restriction box if you have a specific date.
3. If you know the source, type it in the box, as shown. If you don’t know the source name, just select “Newspapers” from the Content Type section.
4. If you know the Byline (Author) or Headline, use the Build Your Own Segment search to narrow to that specific section. It is very important that you select a source BEFORE you use the Build Your Own Segment Search box. The Drop-down box will populate with different sections depending on the selected source.
5. Click Apply
6. Click Search
Find Critical Reviews:

Reading Critical Reviews can be important for a wide variety of majors. For freshman-level writing courses, this exercise can help novice writers understand how criticism can improve their work. For creative majors like art and film, reading critical reviews can help shape their work and highlight the importance of specific techniques. The following example uses the book “The Hunger Games”

Search Strategy:

1. Select All News from the Search By Content Type menu
2. Type in the title of the work you would like to see a critical review of – in this example, the books in the “Hunger Games” series
3. Select the appropriate type of review from the “Article Type” section. In this case, “Book Reviews” are selected since The Hunger Games are a series of books. If you would like to see movie reviews for the movie versions, select Movie Reviews.
4. Click Apply
5. Click Search
Find a Famous Obituary:

Obituaries can be very useful articles for biographical purposes or for historical research. For this example, the “All News, English” source will be used to bring back the most possible results.

Search Strategy:
1. Select All News from the Search by Content Type menu
2. Type the name of the person for which you are trying to find an obituary
3. Click Advanced Options
4. Select Deaths & Obituaries
5. Click Apply
6. Click Search
Find an Editorial or Opinion Piece:
Editorials and Opinion Pieces are an important part of News research. Opinion pieces like these can often sway votes for undecideds in election years, or go viral among certain demographics. The search below uses the topic of “Health Care” to bring back editorial pieces specifically related to the health care debate.

Search Strategy:
1. Select All News from the Search By Content Type menu
2. Type your topic of choice. In this case, “health care”
3. Click the Advanced Options section
4. Narrow your date to the previous week
5. Check “Editorials & Opinions” to narrow your search to editorial and opinion pieces only.
6. Click Apply
7. Click Search
Find Foreign Language News:

LexisNexis Academic is one of the best sources of foreign language news in academia. You will find sources in Dutch, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, Arabic, Danish, Finnish, Malay, Norwegian, Russian, Swedish, and Turkish. If you’re a language major, read foreign language news aloud to practice your pronunciation.

Search Strategy:

1. Select Foreign Language News from the Search By Content Type menu
2. Type in a topic. In this scenario, “calentamiento global” which means: global warming
3. Narrow your date to a certain period of time
4. Select a language, but notice that only languages with Roman character sets are displayed.

For Non-Roman Character Languages like Arabic and Russian, follow these steps:

1. Click on the Sources Section, then “Find Sources”
2. Click the blue “More Options” button
3. Select a language and click “Find Sources” to see all of the sources and group files in that language.
Search a Specific Source:

A professor will often assign readings from a specific publication. Whether it be a small-circulation paper in India or a large publication like The New York Times, searching through only one specific source is easy in LexisNexis Academic.

Search Strategy:

1. Click on the Find link to access the Source Directory.
2. Type the publication you wish to search in the search box. In this case, The New York Times.
3. Click the red “Find Sources” button.
4. On the next screen, you will see your publication. Click the check box to select the correction publication, and then click the red “OK-Continue” button.

After you select your source, you will proceed to the Advanced Search form to construct a search. Narrow by date or topic for relevant results. Please note that on the Main Page, you can also use the Sources word wheel on the Advanced Options section to quickly select a specific source.
Research a Public Figure:

LexisNexis Academic will help you find biographic information, as well as highlight news stories about a specific person. You might find these kinds of assignments necessary in your social science courses like public policy, political science, or popular culture.

Search Strategy:
The People Search form is the best place to find biographies. For news about a public figure, simply typing a name into the main search box of Academic and limiting by date should provide you with great results.

1. Select Biographical Resources from the Search By Content Type menu
2. Enter the person’s first and last name. The above example shows Hillary Clinton.
3. Select a source depending on the content you wish to see in your search. Political Profiles and Biographical Reference are selected above.
4. Click Apply
5. Click Search
Filtering News Results:
Research usually starts with a broad search that returns thousands of results. In order to narrow this hit-list down to a more manageable size, check out the post-search filtering options in LexisNexis Academic.

After you run a search in LexisNexis Academic, the Results Groups Cluster will appear on the left of the results list, just as this image shows. Use this to filter your results.

Click on the “+” icons to expand the lists, narrowing to what you find most relevant to your research.

For example, if you would like to see results from only “The New York Times” – click on the “Publication Name” group and then, click on “The New York Times.”

Use the “Subject” filter to narrow your results to include other major subjects, beside your initial search term. For example, if you did an initial search on “Health Care” and wanted to see articles that specifically talk about the government, you can filter by the “Government & Public Administration” topic in the Subject filter.