Research

Legal research is often complex and may require a variety of tools including electronic, print, microform, audio-visual, and other media. As both an academic and a public institution, the Kathrine R. Everett Law Library provides research resources and assistance to faculty, staff, students, visiting scholars, and citizens of North Carolina. To locate research materials or to get research assistance, please use the appropriate links below.

Access to Legal Databases

The Library has subscriptions to a number of legal databases. Some are only available to faculty, staff, and students of the law school or University. Many are available to patrons who come into the Library but are not affiliated with the law school. The Access to Legal Databases page gives information about who can access which databases and how.

Ask a Law Librarian

The Library provides various ways that patrons can contact us to ask for information about the library or to ask for guidance in doing legal research. The librarians can only give limited assistance to patrons not affiliated with the law school. If you need assistance, it is best to give us a call or come into the library during regular business hours. You can also contact the library by email or by chat and instant message. Visit Ask a Law Librarian to learn more.

If you need extensive research help, please request a research appointment with a librarian by filling out the research appointment form.

Find Journals & Articles

The UNC libraries have a variety of electronic databases and print resources. Two electronic tools you can use to search for articles or find specific journals are the

- E-Research Tools, a page which allows you to search by topic, and
- E-Journal Finder which allows you to search for a specific journal by name.

You can also search for an electronic or print version of a journal by title in the library catalog.

Legal Databases

Legal Research provides links, organized by category, to law-specific databases. While some resources are restricted to the law school community, this page highlights a number of reputable legal research sites that provide free or fee-based access to laws, case decisions, legal forms and other material. Many are maintained by government, academic and non-profit organizations.

Research Guides

The Library provides several guides to researching some specific areas of law.

Search TRLN

The UNC libraries participate, along with Duke University, North Carolina Central University, and North Carolina State University, in a program that allows UNC faculty, staff, and students to use any of the libraries on the four universities' campuses.

The program is a service of the consortium Triangle Research Libraries Network (TRLN), and allows UNC OneCard holders to check out books and other materials from any of the libraries of the four universities. TRLN also has a delivery service, which will send available books or articles to your library, if you choose.

Search TRLN is a catalog search resource that will search all four universities' library catalogs at once and provide links to request available items.

UNC-CH Catalog

The library catalog allows patrons to search every library on campus or only a specific subset, and to narrow the searches to specific criteria, including author, title, or ISBN/ISSN number. The advanced search tab provides even more options to tailor a search, including by type of material, call number, date range, or language. Books, journals, audio-visual material, and many electronic databases are searchable through the catalog. To search for articles, the E-Journals and E-Research Tools are more appropriate.

UNC Chapel Hill also has a campus delivery service called Carolina BLU. It is similar to the TRLN service and delivers available books and articles to you from other campus libraries, upon request. When you search the UNC-CH catalog, a "request" button should appear for any available book. The button will take you to the request form.

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