Researching Islamic Law Topics
Using Secondary Sources

WHERE TO BEGIN

It is always best to begin your research with secondary sources, such as books and journal articles. If you want to research a specialized topic or a foreign jurisdiction, you may want to begin by consulting a legal research guide. These guides will provide you with an understanding of the major resources available on a particular topic or legal system.

RESEARCH GUIDES

Globalex
http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/index.html

Various countries guides are available here in addition to guides on international and comparative legal research topics.

Foreign Law Guide
http://www.foreignlawguide.com/ip/

This database provides a concise guide to the major primary and secondary legal resources of individual countries. You can use MARIAN or WorldCat to find many of the titles that are referred to here.

Gallagher Library Research Guides
http://lib.law.washington.edu/ref/guides.html

Don't forget to consult the library's many research guides on a variety of topics.

Islam and Islamic Studies Resources
http://www.uga.edu/islam/

Maintained by the University of Georgia, this is a good site for references to secondary sources related to Islamic studies.

SOAS Internet Gateways – Middle East
http://www.soas.ac.uk/library/subjects/me/internet/

This is a website maintained by SOAS library, part of the UK's premier university for Asian and African studies.

Arabic and Islamic Resources by the University of Exeter Library
http://as.exeter.ac.uk/library/using/help/arabicandislamicstudies/usingtheinternet/arabicandislamicresources/

This is another gateway into resources related to Islamic studies.

FINDING BOOKS, JOURNALS AND OTHER MATERIALS USING AN ONLINE LIBRARY CATALOG

UW Law Library Catalog only
http://lib.law.washington.edu/

UW Libraries Catalog only
http://catalog.lib.washington.edu/search/X

Using WorldCat Local
http://uwlaw.worldcat.org/advancedsearch

Sample keyword search:

"fiqh"
"sharh"
"shariah" OR "syar'iah"

Use **Library of Congress (LC) subject headings** to find books and journals on a particular topic, some useful subject headings include:

[country] means substitute the name of a country of multi-country region

Adat law—[country]
Constitutional law (Islamic law)
Courts—[country]
Domestic reations (Islamic law)
Fatwas
Hadith -- Commentaries
Hadith -- Criticism, interpretation, etc.
Human rights—[country]
Islamic Law—[country]
Islamic Law—Interpretation and construction
Justice, Administration of (Islamic law)
Law—[country]
Muslim Women--Legal Status Laws Etc—[country]
Women -- Legal status, laws, etc. (Islamic law)
Women's right—Religious aspects—Islam

Also try searching by **series title**:
Harvard series in Islamic law
Critical concepts in Islamic studies
Studies in Islamic law and society

One you had identified a useful source – make sure to note where it is located – is it at the **Gallagher Law Library** or at one of the **University of Washington libraries**? Be sure to also write down the call number and any additional location information.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CLASSIFICATION:

Materials related to Islamic law tend to be classified under K (law), KB (religious laws) and KBP (Islamic law). You may also find relevant materials classified under other subclasses that relate to a particular national jurisdiction (e.g., Egypt or the Philippines).

General overview: http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/lcco/
Law specific: http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/lcco/

INTERLIBRARY LOAN

If you do not find the materials you need, you will want to try searching the catalogs of other libraries, such as Summit or WorldCat.

Don't forget that even if we don't have these materials in the library, we can help you to obtain them through **Interlibrary Loan** (http://lib.law.washington.edu/ill/ill.html). This is a free service provided by the library to the UW Law School community. It allows you to borrow journal articles and books that are not held by our library. It can take up to 2 or 3 weeks to obtain books through this service – so be sure to make your requests well in advance!

FINDING JOURNAL ARTICLES USING INDEXES

The only way to ensure that you have carried out a thorough literature review of any topic is to use indexes to periodical literature. This is because indexes include information about journal articles that may not be available from online full-text database providers, such as Lexis or Westlaw.

Once you have identified a relevant article in the index, you can track down the full-text by searching for the journal in your library catalog or by making an interlibrary loan request: http://lib.law.washington.edu/ill/ill.html

Useful Indexes to Get Started – Law Specific

LegalTrac
http://marian.law.washington.edu/record=b1041051~S0

LegalTrac indexes the contents of nearly 1000 legal periodicals, including academic law journals, bar association publications, and legal newspapers. It covers English-language publications from the U.S., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, and the U.K. LegalTrac is also known as **Legal Resource Index** and can be search through Westlaw and Lexis. The advantage of searching from Westlaw is that you will find links to the full-text where available.

Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals
http://marian.law.washington.edu/record=b1040264~S0

This is the best index available for finding law journal articles in foreign languages, including French, Spanish, German, Russian and Chinese. This database works best using *Internet Explorer*.

Non-Legal Indexes

Non-legal periodicals can also be useful, not only because your topic may be multi-disciplinary in nature, but also because these resources often include current development articles with a legal dimension.

To locating other specialized periodicals, try searching these resources with a particular discipline in mind:

UW Library's Articles & Research Databases
http://www.lib.washington.edu/types/databases/

This page is part of the UW Libraries website. It provides you with access to hundreds of subscriptions databases. Below are some examples, organized by topic.

Multi-disciplinary/Inter-disciplinary:

> **Academic Search Complete**
> http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?authtype=ip,uid&profile=ehost&defaultdb=a9h
>
> Academic Search Complete is a multi-disciplinary database that includes citations and abstracts from over 11,000 scholarly publications, including journals, magazines and newspapers.
>
> **PAIS (Public Affairs Information Service)**
> http://uwashington.worldcat.org/title/pais-international/oclc/47724604
>
> Indexes topics including public and social policy, political science, economics, international relations and law. The database is comprised of abstracts of journal articles, books, directories, conference proceedings, government documents and statistical yearbooks published in English, French, German,

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Italian, Portuguese and Spanish.

Area Studies:

Africa Bibliography
http://catalog.lib.washington.edu/record=b2066432~S6
Published by Cambridge University Press, this database provides a comprehensive guide to works published in African Studies, covering the social sciences, arts, and humanities.

African Journals Online
http://www.ajol.info/
AJOL is a non-profit based in South Africa committed to promoting access to African-published, peer-reviewed scholarly journals.

Bibliography of Asian Studies
http://uwashington.worldcat.org/title/bibliography-of-asian-studies/oclc/39699361
The online Bibliography of Asian Studies (BAS) holds more than 545,000 records on all subjects related to East, Southeast, and South Asia from 1971 to the present (primary disciplines covered are in the humanities and social sciences). Monographs published since 1992 have not been added to the database. The most important 100+ periodicals in Asian Studies have been indexed on a priority basis to make their coverage as up-to-date as possible.

Studies on Women and Gender Abstracts
http://catalog.lib.washington.edu/record=b4387366~S6
This database version of the bi-monthly journal, published by Taylor and Francis, provides access to abstracts from 1995.

Index Islamicus
http://uwashington.worldcat.org/title/index-islamicus/oclc/52431288
Produced by the Islamic Bibliography Unit at Cambridge University Library, this is a bibliography of publications in European languages on all aspects of Islam and the Muslim world. It provides access to over 2,000 journals and series and also includes conference proceedings, monographs, multi-authored works and book reviews.

Religious and Theological Abstracts
http://catalog.lib.washington.edu/record=b6060109~S6
Provides summaries of articles appearing in scholarly journals in the fields of religion and theology. Periodical literature include Christian, Jewish, and Islamic religions, and provides English language abstracts of articles in other languages. Indexes and abstracts articles in the fields of sociology, anthropology, criminology, demography, education, law and penology, race relations, social psychology, and urban studies.

Middle East Virtual Library (MENALIB)
http://catalog.lib.washington.edu/record=b5475789~S6

The is the only online information portal for Middle East and Islamic Studies that provides vernacular periodicals in languages other than Turkish.

Excerpta indonesica
http://catalog.lib.washington.edu/record=b5116060~S6

This is a database of abstracts of selected periodical articles on Indonesia in the field of the social sciences and humanities, with a selected accessions list of periodicals and Indonesian newspapers.

Dissertations and Theses Full Text (ProQuest)
http://catalog.lib.washington.edu/record=b5309340~S6

This database indexes dissertations and masters' theses from most North American graduate schools as well as some European universities. Provides full text for most indexed dissertations from 1990-present.

Other Useful Databases

Encyclopaedia of Islam
http://catalog.lib.washington.edu/record=b1587573~S6

Encyclopaedia of Islam consists of both the second edition ("EI2") AND the third edition ("EI3") of this well-know title. The latter is a work in progress, publication of which started in 2007. The new scope includes comprehensive coverage of Islam in the twentieth century and of Muslim minorities all over the world. The second edition is also an invaluable reference tool; it is an authoritative source not only for the religion, but also for the believers and the countries in which they live.

JSTOR
http://www.jstor.org/action/showBasicSearch

Includes all titles in the JSTOR collection, excluding recent issues. Has a dual mission to create and maintain a trusted archive of important scholarly journals, and to provide access to these journals as widely as possible. Content in JSTOR spans many disciplines, primarily in the humanities and social sciences. As this is not an index, you can only search by full-text.

HeinOnline
http://heinonline.org/HeinOnline/start.pl

This database provides online, full-text access to mostly US law reviews and journals. Coverage begins with a journal's first volume but does not usually include its most recent volumes. Again, not an index so you can only search by full-text, not conceptually.

RESEARCHING NEWSPAPERS

Traditional Newspapers & Magazines
Full-text of the titles below and others are available through Westlaw, Lexis or the "Electronic Newspapers & News" page on the UW Libraries website:
http://www.lib.washington.edu/types/enewspapers/
- Wall Street Journal
- New York Times
- Boston Globe
- Financial Times
- The Economist

For more information on how to research news media from around the world, see:

Guide to Newspapers http://hcl.harvard.edu/research/guides/newspapers/index.html

Newspapers Archives / Indexes / Morgues — Library of Congress
http://www.loc.gov/rr/news/oltitles.html

LEGAL ABBREVIATIONS AND CITATIONS

Legal Abbreviations

For mainly US legal abbreviations, see:
Bieber's dictionary of legal abbreviations : a reference guide for attorneys, legal secretaries, paralegals, and law students.

For foreign legal abbreviations, see:
Cardiff Index to Legal Abbreviations
http://www.legalabbrevs.cardiff.ac.uk/

Katholieke Universiteit Leuven — Guide to European Legal Abbreviations
http://www.law.kuleuven.be/rechtsaf/index.phtml

Citation Formats for Foreign Law Sources

Rule 20 of the Bluebook covers foreign materials. Table 2 lists foreign jurisdictions in alphabetical order.

Guide to foreign and international legal citations. New York University, 2006.
http://www.law.nyu.edu/ecm_dlv1/groups/public/@nyu_law_website__library/documents/d ocuments/ecm_dlv_006388.pdf

Latest edition is only available in print:
http://marian.law.washington.edu/record=b1226585~S0 [Reference Office K89 .G84 2009]

LIBRARY TOOLS TO SEARCH FOR AND MANAGE YOUR CITATIONS

Gallagher Law Library Toolbar
This toolbar allows you instant access to the law library catalog, quick links and automatically links result from your web searches to the Library's print and licensed e-resources.

To install the Firefox extension: http://libx.org/editions/D0/63/D06339FD/libx-D06339FD.xpi
To install the IE plug-in: http://libx.org/editions/D0/63/D06339FD/libx-D06339FD.exe

Citation Management Tool - Refworks
http://uwashington.worldcat.org/oclc/2830050439909

This is an online research management, writing and collaboration tool that allows you to gather, manage, store and share all types of information, as well as generate citations and bibliographies.

For more information, see Citation Guides & Tools:
http://guides.lib.washington.edu/citations

To Upload Records From the Library Catalog to Refworks:
Conduct a search in the law library's catalog
Select relevant records and add to book cart
Click on export saved list
Select "MARC" and "Screen", then click on "submit"
Select and copy records
Open RefWorks – go to References > Import
Paste records into "Import Data from the following Text" box
Select "Marc Format"
Click on "Import"

LIBRARY QUICK LINKS

Gallagher Law Library homepage: http://lib.law.washington.edu/
Gallagher's Legal Databases and Indexes:
http://lib.law.washington.edu/research/dbind.html
UW's Library homepage: http://www.lib.washington.edu/
UW's Articles and Research Databases:
http://www.lib.washington.edu/types/databases/

RESEARCH CONSULTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT

If you would like assistance with research for your seminar paper, you can make an appointment to meet with a reference librarian. We will go over resources specific to your topic and help you with research strategies, too.

Use the following link to sign up for an individual appointment: http://tiny.cc/uwgallagher

After you have signed up for a slot, be sure to send an email to the librarian that you'll be meeting to let her know the topic of your research and any particular research issues that you would like to discuss.