

## UQL Cyberschool Subject Guide: Introduction to Law

### Getting started

What information are you seeking? Write down key words from your assignment topic to use in your search. Make a list of keywords and synonyms you will be able to use as search terms.

Keywords	Synonyms

Now start your search for information.

### Reference

If you are not sure what your topic is all about, look it up in a dictionary or encyclopedia. Start with definitions, maps, timelines or biographical snapshots, to put your topic into perspective.

Title	Location	Call Number
Butterworths concise Australian legal dictionary	LAW	KU26.B88 2004
The new Oxford companion to law	LAW	K48.W342 2008
Laying down the law	LAW	KU47.L38 2012
Queensland Law Handbook	SSAH	KUD6.3.Q44 2011

### Books

Books are a good starting point and may provide a lot of the information you need. Use the **Keyword** search option in the Library catalogue.

Tips: use a question mark (?) in a word to expand your search e.g. Wom?n will find both women and woman; use an asterisk (\*) at the end of a word to expand your search e.g. cultur\* will find both culture and cultural.

Now add resources you have found, using the Keywords you listed for your topic.

Title	Location	Call Number

## Journals

For recent information, journal articles are often the best sources. Looking through journals in the hope of finding relevant material is time consuming. It is better to use full text databases to find articles on your topic.

<b>Australasian Legal Scholarship Library</b>	This database is published on AustLII and includes full-text electronic copies of many Australian Journals. <b>(Can access from home)</b>
<b>AGIS Plus Text</b>	Provides access to articles from legal journals from Australia, New Zealand and the Asia-Pacific region indexed in the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Information Service (AGIS) database. <b>(Available if you visit the library)</b>
<b>APA FT</b>	Australian Public Affairs - Full Text includes all the journal indexing from the Australian Public Affairs Information Service (AP AIS) database, which is produced by the National Library of Australia and published by RMIT Publishing. <b>(Available if you visit the library)</b>

Refer to the **Keywords** you listed previously to use as initial search terms.

Some of the databases available to schools **for free** through your local Council Library or the State Library of Queensland are found at <http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/find/articles>

## Internet resources

To find specific information on the Internet relevant to your assignment search, use the right search tools.

UQL Cyberschool Internet Sites Database – contains selected websites for use in your assignments. It is searchable by keyword and by your school subject e.g. English.	<a href="http://cyberschool.library.uq.edu.au/index.phtml">http://cyberschool.library.uq.edu.au/index.phtml</a>
A range of Internet Search Tools will help you to locate required information	<a href="http://www.library.uq.edu.au/how-to-guides/internet-web-searching">http://www.library.uq.edu.au/how-to-guides/internet-web-searching</a>

## Other resources

For some topics you will need to consult specialist information sources.

<b>Quick Reference Collection</b> An online reference collection providing quick links to Government sites, statistics, biographies, facts, figures, definitions and dates	<a href="http://www.library.uq.edu.au/quickref/index.html">http://www.library.uq.edu.au/quickref/index.html</a>
<b>News How to Guide</b> Media releases, the latest news and some freely available archive material.	<a href="http://www.library.uq.edu.au/how-to-guides/news-and-newspapers">http://www.library.uq.edu.au/how-to-guides/news-and-newspapers</a>
<b>UQ Library Subject Guides</b> Get started – find books, journal articles, using databases, relevant Internet resources and specialised information in your subject area or handy hints on a specific topic.	<a href="http://www.library.uq.edu.au/findit/index.html">http://www.library.uq.edu.au/findit/index.html</a>