Searching LexisNexis Academic for Articles in Newspapers

What is LexisNexis?
- LexisNexis is a subscription database that provides full text access to news, business, legal, and reference publications. The library pays an annual subscription to make the information available to GSU faculty, students, and staff.
- The news portion of the site provides access to the full text of newspaper, magazine and wire service articles covering local, regional, and international newspapers.
- In addition, it includes broadcast transcripts, case law, legal codes and regulations, citations to Supreme Court cases, and company financial information and annual reports.

How to Access:
- Go to the library homepage: library.gsu.edu or do a search in your favorite browser for GSU library
- Once at the library homepage, click on the letter “L” from the Databases by Name A-Z list on the Discover tab.
- Then, scroll down the page until you locate the link for LexisNexis Academic.
  - If you’re on campus, when you click on the link you’ll be taken directly to the LexisNexis website.
  - If you’re off-campus you’ll need to enter your Campus ID and Password, before you can access the site.

LexisNexis Homepage:
How to Search:

1. Click on the Search by Topic or Subject drop down menu at the top of the page and click on “All News”, as shown below:
2. Then, click on the Advanced Options link under the search box and choose what you would like to search: Newspapers, Major World Publications, Magazines, U.S. Newspapers, etc. You can choose a Geographic area as well, or just leave it blank. Click the Apply button when you are done making your choices. Note that you can also choose a “segment” to search by clicking on the “Select a Segment” drop-down menu. Doing so allows you to search specific parts of the articles, such as the headline. I would not advise doing this though because you may miss a lot of articles relevant to your topic if you do.
3. Then, enter your search terms in search box. When entering your terms, any two or more terms typed next to one another will be searched as a phrase:

- *commercial media* will be searched as “commercial media”

To search for terms you want included in the results, but that you don’t want searched as a phrase, type the word **AND** (capitalized) between the two (or more) terms. Note, however, that using **AND** will narrow your results (meaning, you’ll get fewer results), so be careful how many words you connect with the word **AND**. Example:

- commercial **AND** media

You can search for alternate terms and phrases by separating them with the word **OR** (capitalized). Example:

- commercial media **OR** commercially funded media **OR** business funded media

You can create more complex searches by combing the terms you want searched as a phrase and the ones you don’t want searched as a phrase, like this:

- commercial media **AND** bias
- (commercial media **OR** commercially funded media) **AND** bias

In the last example above, you must use the parentheses to separate the phrases from the word “bias.” If you don’t, you will confuse the search interface and you will not retrieve the results you are looking for. Note also, if you are looking for two different topics, you should conduct a separate search for each topic. Otherwise, you may confuse the database and you will retrieve too many articles.

Example of a search in LexisNexis:
After clicking on the **Search** button, you will be presented with a results list, based on the search terms that you used:

The results are sorted in relevance order, but you can change the sort order so that the most recent or oldest articles are placed at the top, but clicking on the “**Sort**” drop down menu and choosing an option.

Note also that if your search produces more than 1,000 articles, LexisNexis will only show you the top 1,000 articles (based on the relevance of the search terms you used).
4. You can limit the results even more, but using the various Result Groups on the left-hand side of the results page. Some of the better choices for the search in the example, would be to limit the search by Industry, and perhaps Geography. Note that Geography only limits the results to newspapers published in a certain geographic area; it does not limit the results to news items about a specific geographic area.

Result Groups

View Multiple Groups

All Results (465)

- Sources by Category
  - Newspapers (454)
  - Industry Trade Press (59)
  - Legal News (11)
  - Web-based Publications (7)
  - Magazines & Journals (2)
  - Aggregate News Sources (1)
  - Newsletters (1)
- Publication Name
- Subject
- Industry
- Company
- Geography
- Language
- People

Result Groups

View Multiple Groups

All Results (465)

- Sources by Category
- Publication Name
- Subject
- Industry
- Company
- Geography
- Language
- People

The numbers next to each Industry, indicate how many articles are categorized in that particular industry from the initial results list.
5. To read an article, simply click on the title. All articles are presented in HTML full text. Note that the search terms you used will be highlighted in red font within the article.

If you are analyzing articles for content (i.e., conducting a content analysis), you may be able to decipher what an article is about from the headline. If not, you will need to click on the title to determine whether the article fits the categories you’ve established for your analysis (e.g., positive or negative discussions of a topic or an industry).

**Need Help?**
For help using LexisNexis, or any other of the Library’s online resources, contact the Political Science Library:

Brian Kooy
- **Email:** bkooy@gsu.edu
- **Office Location:** Room 542 in Library South (on the 5th Floor)