

Basics of Searching Lexis Nexis Academic Universe

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To search *LEXIS-NEXIS Academic Universe* effectively, you need to understand the organization of the database (briefly outlined below) and the operators or connectors used in constructing searches (explained on the other side).

NEWS

General News	US and international
Today's News	News articles updated through the day
U.S. News	Newspaper, wire and transcript articles from a state and selected articles about each state
World News	News from U.S. and international sources
Wires	Wire service reports
Transcripts	Television & radio news broadcasts
Arts & Sports	Reviews, entertainment and sports news
Campus	<i>Chronicle of Higher Education</i> and student newspapers
Non-English	Spanish, French, Dutch, Italian & German
Language News	

BUSINESS Retrieve full text company news and financial information

LEGAL Search full text federal, state, and international legal materials

RESEARCH Legal News Law Reviews Codes and regulations

MEDICAL Find full text and abstracted medical and health information

REFERENCE Search general reference sources

LEXIS-NEXIS Academic Universe is a full text database and because of that you may find using the / connectors more effective than *and*. The following is a list of connectors and some other options for constructing searches. All of these options are only available in Guided searches (not Quick search).

atleast# restricts results to documents containing the term so many number of times
 the terms goes inside parentheses *atleast5(terrorism)*

/n The letter *n* stands for a number from 1 to 255. */n* does not specify a word order

Example: *gas /5 price* -- finds gas within five or fewer words of price, regardless of which word appears first

/p Words must be in the same paragraph

/s Words must be in the same sentence

Note: The */p* connector cannot be combined with the */n* connector

and Both words appear anywhere in the same document

or Link synonyms, alternative forms of expression and acronyms

pre/n Requires both words to appear in the document. The first word must precede the second word by *n* number of words. Use this connector when a different word order would change the meaning.
Example: *cable pre/3 television* will find cable television instead of television cable

and not Excludes documents that contain the word or phrase following it. Use this connector with caution because it can exclude relevant documents. Always use this connector at the end of your search.
Example: *doctor and not malpractice* - - finds the word doctor anywhere in the document, but the word malpractice cannot appear anywhere in the document

***** Use the asterisk (*) to replace a letter or letters in a word. You can use more than one asterisk in a word and you can use it anywhere except as the first letter.

Examples: *bernst**n* finds either ei or ie spelling of the name
*bank**** will pick up banker and banking, but not bankrupt or bankruptcy

! Use the exclamation mark (!) to replace an infinite number of letters following a word root.

Examples: *acqui!* finds variations of the word acquire (acquired, acquiring, acquisitions)
book! finds book or bookkeeper, but will not find book-keeper or book keeper because those are read as two separate words

singular and plural LEXIS-NEXIS automatically searches singular, regular plural and plural possessive endings for search words. For example, a search on the term *company* will find *company*, *companies*, and *company's*.
When you want only the plural or singular form, use the plural or singular command
singular (company) plural (aids)

caps word(s) must have one or more capital letters. Useful when researching names.

allcaps word(s) must have all capital letters. Helpful when searching acronyms.
allcaps(plural(aids))

segment When viewing a document, any header (or segment) with a bold label is searchable even if you do not find in as a pull down option from the search box. **Segments will vary across different portions of the Lexis/Nexis Academic database.**

Example: To view the front page of a newspaper, it will depend how a specific newspaper names and numbers the sections. This might even change over time with the same newspaper.

section(a and pg 1) Full Text

section(1 and page 1) Full Text

Length is another segment in many parts of Lexis Nexis. If you wanted to find longer newspaper articles that part of your search would look like this:

length>1500 Full Text

In the Transcripts part of Lexis/Nexis, show is a segment.

show(60 minutes or dateline or 20/20) Full Text