

Looking for Newspapers post-1980?

Search Lexis-Nexis with These Helpful Tips

Newspaper articles give you current information as well as a slice of the past. To find the articles you need, search **Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe** in ALADIN, a full-text searchable database of major papers and magazines worldwide, from 1980 to the present.

How to Use Lexis-Nexis

- **Open** it from the Alphabetical List of ALADIN's "Articles & Other Databases."
- **Click** on "Guided News Search" to get to the screen below:

The screenshot shows the 'Guided News Search' interface. It has two tabs: 'Quick News Search' and 'Guided News Search' (which is active). A 'Tips' link is in the top right. The interface is divided into four steps:

- Step One: Select a news category -- Entry Required**: A dropdown menu labeled 'Select a News Category'.
- Step Two: Select a news source -- Entry Required**: A dropdown menu labeled 'All Available Documents' with a 'Source List' link next to it.
- Step Three: Enter search terms -- Entry Required**: Three search boxes, each with a connector dropdown (currently set to 'and') and a search scope dropdown (currently set to 'Headline, Lead Paragraph(s), Terms').
- Step Four: Narrow to a specific date range -- Optional**: A radio button selected for 'Previous six months' with a dropdown, and another radio button for 'From: [] To: []'.

- **Select** a News Category (for example, General News).
- **Select** a News Source (for example, Major Papers).
- **Enter** keywords in the text boxes and choose where you wish to search for those words: in headlines, full text, captions, etc.
- **Choose** connectors between your terms: "and," "or," "and not." You may also search for the words "welfare reform," for example, within 5 words (W/5) of "Wisconsin" to narrow your search.
- **Choose** your date range and click the Search button.

Too many results? Not enough? See reverse for help.

Too many results to sort through? Click on **Edit Search** and try one of the following:

- Add a word to the search using the “AND” connector.
- Limit the date.
- Limit to one newspaper (use the More Options search form).
- Search for words in headlines rather than full text.
- Try using more specific keywords.
- Search for words near one another using the “w/10” connector.

Not enough results? Click on **Edit Search** and try one of the following:

- Delete one of your search words.
- Try adding synonyms using the “OR” connector.
- Use the wild card (!) to find words with the same root (e.g. **biolog!** would retrieve **biology, biological, biologist**, etc).
- Remove date limits.
- Search in Headline and Lead Paragraph or Full Text instead of just Headline.

Need articles from smaller, regional newspapers?

- Select **U.S. News** as a news category.
- Select from regional news sources, such as “Northeast regional sources” or “Wisconsin news sources.”
- Follow keyword search directions on the front of this handout.

Looking for movie, book, or play reviews?

- Select “Arts & Sports News” as your news category.
- Choose “Book, Music, Movie, & Play Reviews” as your news source.
- Follow keyword search directions on the front of this handout.

What if I need newspaper articles from before 1980?

- For **full-text articles and photos** from the first issues of *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Wall Street Journal* through the 1980s and 1990s, check out the **Historical Newspapers** database in ALADIN. For help searching, ask a reference librarian (x5070).
- Try the library’s **print indexes** for other major newspapers, such as the *The London Times*. These are all located in the Main Reading Room in Mullen Library.

For more help, contact the Reference Desk at Mullen Library (x5070) or try **Ask a Librarian**, the WRLC’s Virtual Reference service at <http://www.aladin.wrlc.org/>

