Welcome...

and Happy Hallowe’en!

Research Guide Highlight!

Here is where we will highlight one of our many legal subject guides. Each guide provides links to popular books, databases, websites, and other information.

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

Collections Corner

Have you been wondering about e-format historical texts? With assistance from Liz Mantz, Weldon Libraries’ Research and Instructional Services Librarian with collections responsibilities in History, Reference, and Microforms, we created a list of interesting monograph collections.

Renovations Update

The Library Staff have moved into our new digs. Where are we now?

John Sadler 219-G
Elizabeth Bruton 219-F
Jen Holland 219-E
Barb Fetchison 219-J
Edith Richardson 219-J
Roberta McClelland 219-J
Duncan Archibald 219-J

In WestlawCanada click on the Westlaw tab and enter the database code RETSA in the Search for a Database box.
Collections Corner: Digital Texts

As we collect more and more digital e-journals and e-books, we naturally start asking about more historical texts that have been digitized and are available in some electronic format. There are a number of digital collections of historical texts, to which Western Libraries provides access.

With assistance from Liz Mantz, Weldon Libraries Research and Instructional Services Librarian with collections responsibilities in History, Reference, and Microforms, I have put together some collections that might be of interest to legal researchers.

Internet Archive
http://archive.org/

Provides free access to digitized materials, which are stored in its own database. It began as a service to archive versions of websites but has expanded to other projects such as:

Open Library
http://openlibrary.org/

This database collects catalogue records of books as well as the full text of public domain books.

Archive-It
http://archive-it.org/

This service allows institutions to build local archives of digital content and make their digital collections available to the public. The collections include public-domain books.

HeinOnline
http://home.heinonline.org/

Legal Classics Library

Includes more than 3,000 works from some of the greatest legal minds in history including Joseph Story, Jeremy Bentham, William Blackstone, William Holdsworth, Henry Maine, Federick William Maitland, Frederick Pollock, Benjamin E. Cardozo, and many more! In addition to many “classics” this collection also includes rare items that are found in only a handful of libraries around the world. The titles in this collection are included in the library catalogue but users can also search the collection within HeinOnline as well.

Early English Books Online
http://eebo.chadwyck.com/home

EEBO contains digital facsimile page images of virtually every work printed in England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and British North America and works in English printed elsewhere from 1473-1700: from the first book printed in English by William Caxton, through the age of Spenser and Shakespeare and the tumult of the English Civil War. Titles are included in the library catalogue but users can also search the collection within EEBO as well.

The Avalon Project: Yale Law School
http://avalon.law.yale.edu/default.asp

The Avalon Project mounts digital documents relevant to the fields of Law, History, Economics, Politics, Diplomacy and Government. The intent is to add value to the static text by linking to supporting documents expressly referred to in the body of the text.

Humanities E-Books Online
American Council of Learned Societies
http://www.humanitiesebook.org/

Originally funded in 1999 as the ACLS History E-Book Project, this second phase was renamed in 2005 as ACLS Humanities E-Book. It is a collection of approximately 3,700 books (monographs, collected essays and primary sources) offered by the ACLS in collaboration with twenty learned societies, over 100 contributing publishers, and librarians in the MPublishing Division of the University of Michigan Library. Hundreds of books are added annually to the collection. Fields currently covered include Historical Studies in Comparative/World, Eastern European/Russian, Economic, European, Latin American, Law, Methods/Theory, and Science/Technology.

Adam Matthew Digital
London Low Life
http://www.londonlowlife.amdigital.co.uk/

London Low Life is a full-text searchable resource, containing colour digital images of rare books, ephemera, maps and other materials relating to 18th, 19th and early 20th century London.

Also from Adam Matthew, Victorian Popular Culture, a portal into the entertainment world in America, Britain and Europe from 1779 to 1930.
Research Guides Spotlight

Constitutional Law

Databases

Canadian Human Rights Reporter (CHRR Online)
The Canadian Human Rights Reporter Inc. (CHRR) is a not-for-profit organization established to promote access to human rights law in Canada. Since 1980, CHRR has published decisions of tribunals, boards of inquiry and courts from all jurisdictions, as well as the appeals which flow from them. Many of the decisions published by CHRR are not available from any other source. CHRR also publishes human rights legislation from all jurisdictions. CHRR Online provides access to Human Rights Digest (2000-) Current Law Notes (decisions not yet published in the CHRR)

Search CHRR Online at http://www.cdn-hr-reporter.ca
No password required (access is by IP).

LexisNexis Quicklaw
LNQ has Administrative Law folders [under Source Directory – Area of Law] - Constitutional Law. Resources include citators and digests, cases, commentary, legal journals, legal news, and legislation. Other sources within LNQ include Halsbury’s Laws of Canada - Constitutional Law (Charter of Rights) (Newman), and Constitutional Law (Division of Powers) (Mason, Régimbald)

Access is restricted to Law faculty, staff and students, who receive a personal password as part of an educational agreement between the end user and Thomson Reuters.

Halsbury’s Laws of Canada

This volume discusses the scope and application of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and its interpretation by Canadian courts. Topics covered include: principles of interpretation, limitation of rights, section 33 constitutional override, enforcement of Charter rights and remedies.

This volume illuminates the complex interaction between the written and unwritten elements of the constitution, together with the common law and practices, customs and conventions that have shaped our modern legal system. Topics covered include: courts, independence of judiciary and judicial review; constitutional interpretation; peace, order and good government; criminal law -- federal and provincial jurisdiction; the regulation of trade and commerce; the raising of revenue, the spending power and federal authority in relation to financial matters; property and civil rights and provincial authority in relation to local and private matters.

Revised research guides such as the full guide for Constitutional Law can be found at: http://www.law.uwo.ca/lab/guides.htm

More guides (currently being reviewed) are found on the Western Libraries site at: http://www.lib.uwo.ca/programs/index.html
Reference Corner: Ask a Librarian

According to a recent survey of users who've tried Western Libraries chat service, the help they received was so useful they wanted more hours of service.

Western Libraries has responded by joining OCUL/Scholar's Portal's Ask a Librarian, a chat consortium service for Ontario universities that began in 2011. Joining Ask a Librarian allows Western Libraries to offer an additional 30 hours of chat service per week including evenings and weekends.

Users are served by librarians and library staff from participating Ontario universities along with interns who are current students or recent graduates of Masters level programs in Information Studies.

To use chat, look for the Ask a Librarian logo throughout the Western Libraries website.

Hours:  Monday-Thursday: 10am-10pm  
       Friday: 10am-5pm  
       Saturday & Sunday: 11am-5pm

Feedback or comments about Ask a Librarian may be directed to your Faculty Librarian or the Virtual Reference Coordinator for Western Libraries: jrobins@uwo.ca

The Law Library continues to offer reference service to our users via email, telephone, or in-person.

Need Research Help?
Contact us at lawref@uwo.ca

Update: Law Library Renovations

Edith in the outside corridor looking in to our new work area

Moving out of our Summer homes

Moving Day!