

# Secondary Sources

To begin the legal research process, we recommend you start with secondary sources. These are commentaries on the law, and while they don't themselves hold precedential or legal authority, they can point you in the right directions.

The works displayed on the surrounding shelves are generally known as treatises. These are more focused works on a specific topic, often with an opinion or specific viewpoint.

For a more general overview, check out a legal encyclopedia that covers the breadth of an area of law and provides citations to primary authority such as legislation, rules, and cases.

And for hot-topic issues and detailed looks, make sure to peruse law journals. Our print collection is located on the Garden Level, or there are more on Lexis, Westlaw, or HeinOnline. Ask a reference librarian for more database tips and access points!