Rely on secondary sources first

When your professor assigns a major research project, how do you absorb all the information? What will break it down for you and guide you through it, step by step?

Secondary sources are not the law, but they can be the best place to begin your research. They help you determine which primary cases, statutes and regulations you need. Practitioners often use secondary sources to quickly evaluate their legal topic and better understand the laws that they read next.

FINDING SECONDARY SOURCES WITH LEXIS ADVANCE® IS AS EASY AS ABC.

A. I know the legal issue. Where do I find a secondary source that discusses it?

• Enter search terms for your legal issue.
• Select the source category **Secondary Materials** in the top left box.
• Narrow By Category such as **Restatements**.
• Or, in **Explore Content**, go to Secondary Materials, Restatements and type your search terms.

**SNAPSHOT OF SECONDARY SOURCES**

1. **American Jurisprudence (AmJur)**
   Plain English encyclopedia of the law with links to cases and statutes.

2. **Law Reviews and Journals**
   In-depth peer-reviewed articles on current issues in the law are written by judges, legal practitioners and law school faculty, with shorter notes and comments by students.

3. **Restatements**
   "Restate" the common law rules with illustrations and case links.

4. **Treatises and Practice Guides**
   Area-of-law-specific and jurisdiction-specific titles provide authoritative analyses of the law on specific topics. Many practitioners read a treatise first, then link from the treatise to the primary laws referenced in it. LexisNexis® treatises* are concise and easy-to-read explanations of primary law.

*Matthew Bender® treatises—only on Lexis Advance®—are the treatises most cited and referenced by practitioners, judges and legal experts. Use the treatises that attorneys and courts recognize as superior. With more than 800 Matthew Bender treatises, there is one for every area of law and every jurisdiction.
B. My professor gave me a case. Which secondary source should I read?

- *Shepardize* your case citation.
- Select Other Citing Sources and then Narrow By content, such as Treatises.
- Link to resulting treatise titles.

C. I need to find the best secondary source to help with my Bankruptcy class. Where can I find the top Bankruptcy treatise?

- Under Explore Content, select Secondary Materials.
- Under Practice Area, select Bankruptcy.
- Select Collier on Bankruptcy, Sixteenth Edition.

ALREADY KNOW THE TREATISE YOU WANT?

Start typing the title in the Red Search Box and select the Table of Contents icon when it appears as a choice below.

A TREATISE IS LIKE A “COOKBOOK” FOR LAWYERS.

Start your research with a treatise to see which ingredients (e.g., cases, statutes, regulations) you need, and how to properly mix them together.

Get help with legal research:

CLICK ON RESOURCES AT LEXISNEXIS.COM/LAWSCHOOL
GET 24/7 RESEARCH SUPPORT AT 800.45.LEXIS (800.455.3947)
USE LIVE CHAT SUPPORT FROM 8 A.M.–1 A.M.