BRITISH AND COMMONWEALTH LEGAL MATERIALS.

TEACHING STUDENTS HOW TO LOCATE AND FURTHER RESEARCH PRIMARY LEGAL SOURCES FROM JURISDICTIONS WITHIN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS.

Howard S. Carrier, LL.M., M.S.L.S.,
Reference Librarian, Odum Library, Valdosta State University.

13th December 2012.
Abstract:

Working with legal materials can be daunting for undergraduate students. Working with legal materials from a foreign jurisdiction adds an additional level of complexity and unfamiliarity. However, interdisciplinary approaches within advanced undergraduate classes may require students to find and evaluate sources of law from outside of U.S. jurisdictions.

This webinar considers two such examples drawn from upperclassmen level classes recently taught at Valdosta State University: a history class requiring the use of historical English capital statutes, and a communications class focusing upon comparative media law. The webinar will discuss sources of law for the purposes of these classes, in addition to strategies for effective information literacy instruction that were attempted.
Go through your wardrobe

Make-do and Mend

Image source: Imperial War Museum, London.
Historical Legal Research

Contemporary Legal Research

Image source: Wikimedia Commons.
HIST 3000

- Students required to write a “biography” of an English capital statute, which could form the basis of a Wikipedia article.

- Paper should include the legislative history of the statute; a consideration of cases decided under the statute; any subsequent repeal or amendment of the statute.
The statutes at large from the Magna Charta, to the end of the eleventh Parliament of Great Britain, anno 1761 [continued to 1806]. By Danby Pickering.
HIST 3000:

Library Instruction.

Finding a comparable example for the class that the students would (hopefully) find interesting, in order to demonstrate the research process.
C A P.  XCVI.

An Act to amend the Law respecting defamatory Words and Libel. [24th August 1843.]

FOR the better Protection of private Character, and for more effectually securing the Liberty of the Press, and for better preventing Abuses in exercising the said Liberty, be it enacted
To Sir W. Wilde
Marquis of Queensberry.

Image source: U.K. National Archives.
legislation.gov.uk

Browse Legislation

Legislation.gov.uk carries most types of UK legislation. The list below is a complete breakdown of the types of legislation held on this site. From this page you can select any legislation type and continue browsing or you can hover over the map to see which legislation types are applicable to the geographical area you are interested in.

- Exclusively or primarily applies to the area on the map
- Contains legislation that applies/may apply to the whole or part of the area on the map
- Not applicable

- UK Public General Acts
- UK Statutory Instruments

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/
Legislative History

http://www.history.ac.uk/

CFP: Mobilising London’s Housing Histories: The Provision of Homes Since 1850

Senate House, London 27-28 June 2013

As a growing metropolis, London is in the middle of a severe housing crisis. This conference will examine the history of housing provision in London, and how historical research may be mobilised to address the contemporary crisis.

CFP deadline: Friday, 14 December 2012

See here for the call for papers

Today at the Institute (13 Dec)

17:15, Room 102 (Senate House, first floor)
Deconstructing the Indian Family: The Politics of Lapse and Co...
Margot Finn (UCL)

17:30, Room STB6
Boys Should Be Boys and Girls Should Be Wives: The Constructio...
Alison Enever (Southampton)

17:30, Room G34 (Ground Floor)
Chronicking the Lutheran Reformation: history and memory in th...
Kat Hill (Oriel)

18:00, Room 104 (Senate House, first floor)
Liberating the Self: Epiphanies, conflict and coherence in the...
Lynn Abrams (University of Glasgow)
Legislative History

http://www.history.ac.uk/projects/digital/history-parliament-online
Legislative History

http://www.parliament.uk/about/how/laws/passage-bill/
Legislative History

http://www.parliament.uk/about/how/committees/
Legislative History

HANSARD 1803–2005

This site has been produced from digitised editions of Commons and Lords Hansard, the Official Report of debates in Parliament. This was part of a project led by the Commons and Lords libraries.

There's the Hansard text itself by volume, Lords sittings, Commons sittings and Westminster Hall sittings as well as Written Answers, Written Statements, Lords reports and Grand Committee reports. This site also includes extracted lists of People who are recorded as having spoken, Constituencies, Offices, Acts, Bills and Divisions.

Please note that Parliament, as administrator of this website recently received notice from its hosting provider that the original hosting service would no longer be available from the end of October 2012. As such we have moved the content of the site to a new provider but have not yet been able to restore the search function. We are working hard on recreating the ability to search this material as a matter of priority.

If you have any questions or comments about this website, please contact webmaster@parliament.uk.

http://hansard.millbanksystems.com/
Legislative History

THE LAW OF LIBEL (Hansard, 13 February 1843)
hansard.millbanksystems.com/.../1843/.../the-law-of-... - United Kingdom
Lord Campbell. I rise, in pursuance of the notice I have given, to move for a Select Committee of your Lordships to consider the law of defamation and libel.

DEFAMATION AND LIBEL (Hansard, 31 July 1843)
hansard.millbanksystems.com/.../1843/.../defamation-... - United Kingdom
DEFAMATION AND LIBEL (Hansard, 31 July 1843)

Acts (Hansard)
hansard.millbanksystems.com/acts/s - United Kingdom
HANSARD 1803–2005 .... Scientific and Literary Institutions Exemption of Rating Act · Scientific and Literary Societies Act 1843 · Scientific Authority for Animals ...
THE LAW OF LIBEL.

Lord Campbell I rise, in pursuance of the notice I have given, to move for a Select Committee of your Lordships to consider the law of defamation and libel. I know how difficult it is to obtain attention to such a subject. Absorbed by disputes between this country and foreign states, and questions on which the fate of rival parties at home may depend, Parliament and the public are generally rather indifferent respecting any defects in our jurisprudence. Yet upon the frame of our laws the permanent credit, glory, and happiness of the country must mainly depend; and a duty is cast upon those intrusted with the power of legislating, of considering the state of the law from time to time, and adapting it to the varying circumstances of the age. One of the most important branches of the law is that which respects defamation and libel. There must necessarily be legislation on this subject. The boundary must be defined between permitted discussion and words and writings injurious to individuals and dangerous to the state. Remedies must be provided for an attack on private character, and punishments must be enacted against incitements to crime. You can as little licence as you can forbid all speaking or all written publications. In every country, therefore, the law must attempt to distinguish what is permitted from what is forbidden, and by civil and criminal sanctions guard the line which it lays down. I am sorry to say that on this important subject the law of England is more
Legislative History

Welcome to the House of Commons Parliamentary Papers (HCPP).

With all collections enabled, HCPP now includes over 200,000 House of Commons sessional papers from 1715 to the present, with supplementary material back to 1688. HCPP delivers page images and searchable full text for each paper, along with detailed indexing. Find out more about House of Commons Parliamentary Papers.

HCPP is currently complete from 1801-2008. Records and papers from recent sessions of Parliament will continue to be added on a regular basis.

LOG IN:
Your login name: 
Your password: 

Login!

ATHENS USERS:
Log in to Athens | Log out of Athens

REMOTE USERS:
Login via your home organisation

If your public library subscribes to HCPP, log in using your library barcode
Legislative History

Google search results:

"sessional papers" "libel" "1843"

About 202 results (0.36 seconds)

THE SESSIONAL PAPERS OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS, PRESENTED BY ROYAL...
books.google.com/books?id=phFcAAAAQAAJ
1843 - Read

THE SESSIONAL PAPERS PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS, OR ...
books.google.com/books?id=nBFcAAAAQAAJ
1843 - Read - More editions
5th May 1843: 126 MINUTES OF EVIDENCE TAKEN ON THE SECOND READING
In the Consistory Court of London. ... Answers to the Libel, The personal Answers
of the R' Honble George Ferrars filed 27 April 1809. j Townshend, Esq., ...
THE REPORT.

By the Lords Committees appointed a Select Committee to consider the Law of Defamation, and Libel, and to report to the House; and to whom was referred the Petition of James Birch of the City of Dublin, Newspaper Proprietor, praying their Lordships to make certain Alterations in the Law of Libel:

ORDERED TO REPORT,

THAT the Committee have met, and considered the Subject Matter of the said Reference, and the Petition referred to them; and have examined many Witnesses: and have come to certain Resolutions, which they beg...
Relevant Case Law

The Proceedings of the Old Bailey, 1674-1913

A fully searchable edition of the largest body of texts detailing the lives of non-elite people ever published, containing 197,745 criminal trials held at London’s central criminal court. If you are new to this site, you may find the Getting Started and Guide to Searching videos and tutorials helpful.

http://www.oldbaileyonline.org/
Relevant Case Law

Search Results

Searched for all text where the transcription matches "oscar wilde".

Displaying Results 1 to 3 of 3.

1. JOHN SHOLTO DOUGLAS, Breaching Peace > libel, 25th March 1895.

   ... scandalous and malicious libel of and concerning Oscar Wilde. To this the defendant pleaded NOT GUILTY, and put in a plea of justification, stating the contents of the alleged libel to be true in substance and ...

2. JOHN SHEPHERD, Theft > extortion; GEORGE MOODY, Theft > extortion; GEORGE WILTON, Theft > extortion; JOHN SHEPHERD, Sexual Offences > Indecent assault, 17th June 1895.

   ... tall about; what for?—they said it was an Oscar Wilde business; that they were detectives, and I had to go to the police station—Shepherd caught hold of Mooney's arm, and was talking to him, and he ...
Student example
The statutes at large from the Magna Charta, to the end of the eleventh Parliament of Great Britain, anno 1761 [continued to 1806]. By Danby Pickering.
Student example

An Act for amending and reducing into One Act, the Provisions contained in any Laws now in force imposing the Penalty of Death for any Act done in Breach of or in Resistance to any Part of the Laws for collecting His Majesty’s Revenue in Great Britain. [23d July 1812.]

WHEREAS it is expedient, that the Provisions contained in any Laws now in force, for collecting His Majesty’s Revenue in Great Britain, whereby the Penalty of Death is imposed for any Act done in Breach of or in Resistance to the said Laws, or any of them, should be amended and reduced into one Act; May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King’s Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That in all cases where any Act to be done or committed after the passing of this Act, in Breach of or in Resistance to any Part of the Laws for collecting His Majesty’s Revenue in Great Britain, would by the Laws now in force subject the Offender to suffer Death, as guilty of Felony, without Benefit of Clergy, by virtue of the said Laws, or any of them, such Act, so to be done or committed, shall be deemed and taken to be Felony with Benefit of Clergy, and punishable only as such, unless the same shall also be declared to be Felony without Benefit of Clergy by this Act.

II. And be it declared and enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Deputy, Clerk, Agent, Letter Carrier, Post Boy or Rider, or any other Officer or Person whatsoever employed by or under the Post Office of Great Britain, in receiving, stamping, sorting, charging, carrying, conveying or delivering Letters or Packets, or in any other Business relating to the said Office, shall, after the passing of this Act, secrete, embezzle or destroy any Letter or Packet, or Bag or Mail of Letters with which he or she shall have been entrusted in consequence of such Employment, or which shall in any other manner have come to his or her
Student example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session and Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Short Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50 Geo. 3. c. 112.</td>
<td>An Act for abridging the form of extracting Decrees of the Court of Session in Scotland, and for the Regulation of certain Parts of the Proceedings of that Court.</td>
<td>The Court of Session Act, 1810.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51 Geo. 3. c. 37.</td>
<td>An Act further to prevent the Marriage of Lunatics.</td>
<td>The Marriage of Lunatics Act, 1811.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52 Geo. 3. c. 68.</td>
<td>An Act for amending the Laws relating to the Local Militia in Scotland.</td>
<td>The Militia (Scotland) Act, 1812.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52 Geo. 3. c. 102.</td>
<td>An Act for the registering and securing of Charitable Donations.</td>
<td>The Charitable Donations Registration Act, 1812.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52 Geo. 3. c. 104.</td>
<td>An Act to render more effectual an Act passed in the thirty-seventh year of His present Majesty for preventing the administering or taking of unlawful oaths.</td>
<td>The Unlawful Oaths Act, 1812.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52 Geo. 3. c. 150.</td>
<td>An Act to amend an Act passed in the Forty-fourth Year of His Majesty’s Reign for granting Stamp Duties in Great Britain so far as the Duties stated</td>
<td>The Medicines Stamp Act, 1812.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Short Titles Act, 1892](#) (also see subsequent 1896 legislation)
Student example

Legislative history: as per Oscar Wilde example
Student example

Case Law
Current Law Case Citator – coverage commences in 1947.
Blackstone's Commentaries on the Laws of England

- Introduction
  - Section the First: On the Study of Law
  - Section the Second: Of the Nature of Laws in General
  - Section the Third: Of the Laws of England
  - Section the Fourth: Of the Countries Subject to the Laws of England

- Book the First: The Rights of Persons

http://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject_menus/blackstone.asp
# Capital punishment in the 18th & 19th centuries.

## 18th century.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Execution Type</th>
<th>1799/18th century details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executions at London's Tyburn 1695 - 1783 – full list</td>
<td>English &amp; Welsh executions by circuit 1735 - 1799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Being hanged at Tyburn</td>
<td>Executions at the Tower of London</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overview of executions at Tyburn</td>
<td>The female executed 1735 - 1799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burning at the stake</td>
<td>Sarah Malcolm - triple murder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catherine Hayes - burnt for Petty Treason</td>
<td>Jenny Diver - highway robbery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann Bedingfield &amp; Richard Ringe - Petty Treason</td>
<td>Elizabeth Jeffries - murder of her uncle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phoebe Harris - burnt for coining</td>
<td>Mary Blandy - patricide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hanged at Execution Dock</td>
<td>Elizabeth Brownrig - horrible murder of her servant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newgate executions 1783 – 1799</td>
<td>Earl of Ferrers - first use of &quot;New Drop&quot; gallows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to the Bloody Code</td>
<td>Elizabeth Taylor - hanged for burglary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte Gardiner &amp; Mary Jones - rioters</td>
<td>Mary Jones - hanged for shoplifting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Lloyd - hanged for robbery</td>
<td>Elizabeth Sedgwick – hanged for arson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 19th century.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Execution Type</th>
<th>19th century details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newgate prison history</td>
<td>English &amp; Welsh executions 1800 – 1827</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newgate executions 1800 - 1836</td>
<td>English &amp; Welsh executions 1828 – 1836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newgate executions 1837 - 1902</td>
<td>English &amp; Welsh executions 1837 – 1868</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[http://www.capitalpunishmentuk.org/index18.html](http://www.capitalpunishmentuk.org/index18.html)
Woolrych, H. (1832) The history and results of the present capital punishments in England: to which are added, full tables of convictions, executions, &c
**Index to the Times.**

- **New Title:** Times index
- **Previous Title:** Official Index to the Times
- **Format:** Journal
- **Language:** English
- **Subjects:** Times (London, England) > Indexes > Periodicals.

http://gilfind.valdosta.edu/vufind/Record/262570
Student example – Case Law

http://gilfind.valdosta.edu/vufind/Record/124022
Historical Legal Research  

Contemporary Legal Research

Image source: Wikimedia Commons.
COMM 7000 (Media Law)

- Students tasked with researching a media law topic, determining how this issue is dealt with in a U.S. jurisdiction and comparing this with a jurisdiction from outside of the United States.
Student example:

Mr. Howard,

I spoke with Dr. XXXX and she said that my two Media and the Justice System topics need to deal with media access to any judicial proceedings and a case in which the judge closed the courtroom to all reporters because opening the courtroom would not guarantee a fair trial. Is there anyway you could help me with this or point me in the right direction of where to look? I'm sorry I keep asking for your help, and I really really appreciate it...I am so lost!
Judgment against "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"
13/12/2012

The Court found several violations of the Convention in the case of El-Masri v. "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia". The applicant, a German national of Lebanese origin, complained that he was arrested and tortured in Skopje, because he was suspected of belonging to a terrorist organisation, and that he was handed over to the CIA which then kept him in a secret detention centre in Afghanistan. The Court held that "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" had been responsible for his torture and ill-treatment both in the country itself and after his transfer to the US authorities in the context of an extra-judicial "rendition".

- Press Release, Macedonian version, German version
- Hearing of 16.05.2012
- "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"

http://www.echr.coe.int/ECHR/Homepage_EN
Student example:
Student example:

Student example:

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/committees/select-committee-publications/
Student example:

http://www.official-documents.gov.uk
Student example:

http://www.commonwealthofnations.org/


I will locate articles about this case and email these to you along with a comparable international case.
Student example:

http://www.austlii.edu.au/
Questions?

Howard S. Carrier, LL.M., M.S.L.S.,
Reference Librarian & Assistant Professor,
Odum Library, Valdosta State University,
Valdosta, GA 31698

Tel: 229-245-3744
Email: hscarrier@valdosta.edu
Session Evaluation

http://tinyurl.com/grs-eval21

Please fill out our survey and let us know what you think!
Upcoming Accidental Librarian Webinars

• **January 16:** Information for International Development: Poverty Reduction, International Organizations, and Civil Society by Jim Church

• **February Date TBD:** Webinar on the Homeland Security Digital Library by Greta Marlatt

• **Coming up! History of the Census, Maps, Law, and more!**

• Brought to you by the North Carolina Library Association’s Government Resources Section. Join us! [http://www.nclaonline.org/government-resources](http://www.nclaonline.org/government-resources)