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# Law E-books in a Nutshell



[onlinelibrary.london.ac.uk](http://onlinelibrary.london.ac.uk)

This nutshell guide will introduce you to the principle [e-book](#) databases, VLeBooks, and E-book Central, and how to search for, and access the wide range of law eBooks available.

## Searching for E-books

[Summon](#), the Online Library search engine, is a good starting point for locating e-books. Summon searches across the Online Library databases from a single search box on the Online Library [home page](#) and links you to the book in the relevant database.

A search of Summon for the authors surname **Slapper** and book title **How the law works**, retrieves over 60 results with the book the first result listed. Select the book title link, and [log in](#) with your student portal password to go directly to the book.

The screenshot shows the Summon search interface. At the top, the search bar contains 'Slapper How the law works'. Below the search bar, the results are displayed. On the left, there is a 'Refine your search' section with several filters, including 'Content Type'. Under 'Content Type', the 'Book / eBook' option is selected and highlighted with a red box. The main results area shows 66 results, sorted by relevance. The first result is 'How the Law Works' by Gary Slapper (2016), which is an eBook with full text online. The second result is a book review by Lucy Keating (2009). On the right side, there is a 'Need help?' section with contact information for the Online Library Enquiry Service.

### Too many results?

If you retrieve too many results, or see reviews of the book in journals instead of the book itself, refine your search to eBooks only by ticking the **Book / eBook** box under Content Type on the left side of the page.

### Multiple editions of a book?

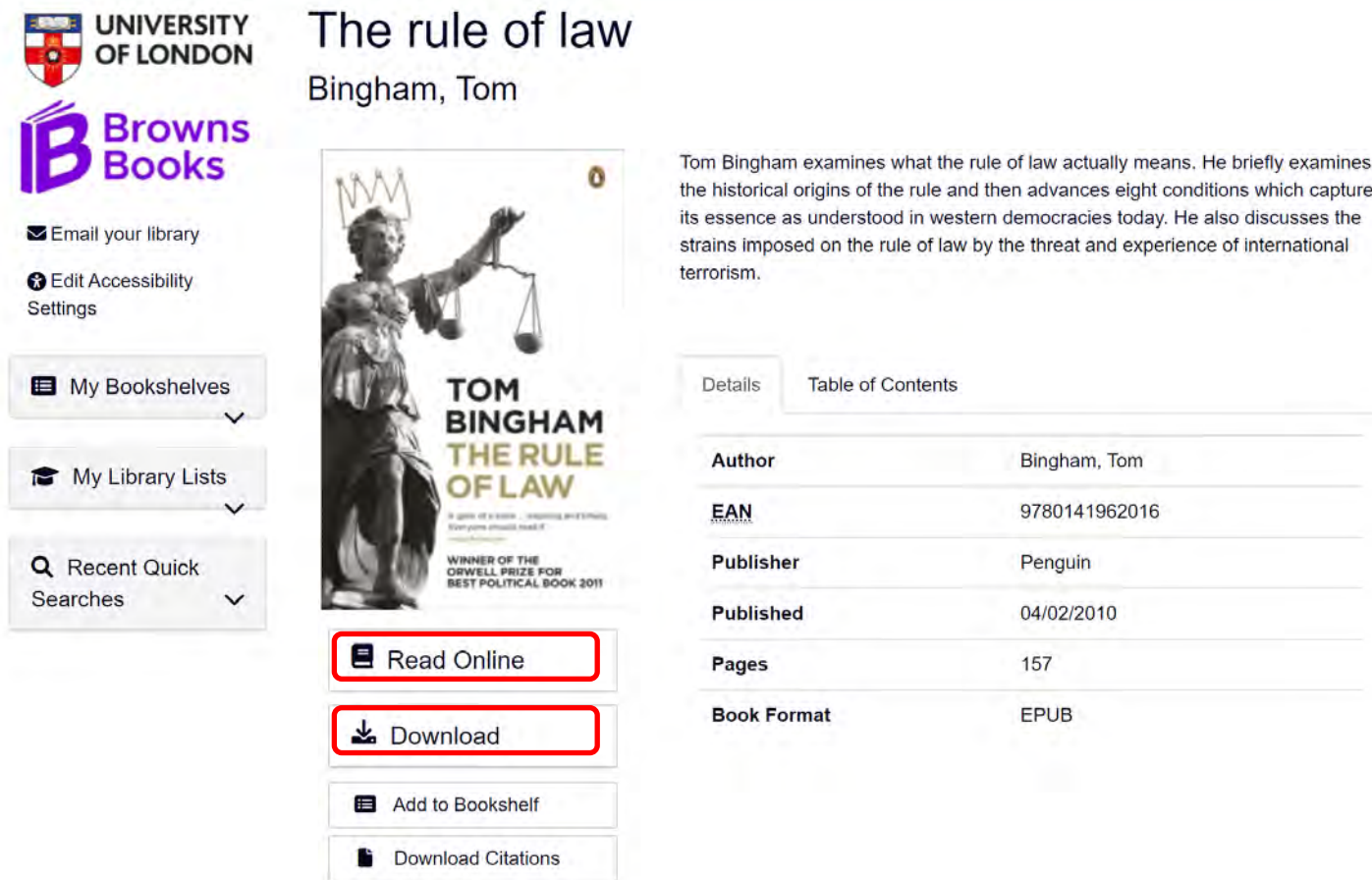
Results are listed by relevance by default, sort your results to **Date (newest)** to ensure you access the most recent edition available.

**Practice searching Summon** by finding these law e-books:

- McBride, N. Letters to a law student (2022)
- Askey, S. Studying Law (2014)
- Hutchinson, Is eating people wrong (2010)

# Accessing E-books: VLeBooks

Access VLeBooks with your student portal username and password either from the results of a Summon search, a link to a book in your VLE or [directly](#) from your database list on your Online Library [UG Laws Study Programme Gateway](#).



The screenshot shows the VLeBooks interface for the book 'The rule of law' by Tom Bingham. On the left, there are navigation options: 'Email your library', 'Edit Accessibility Settings', 'My Bookshelves', 'My Library Lists', and 'Recent Quick Searches'. The book cover features a statue of Lady Justice and the text 'TOM BINGHAM THE RULE OF LAW'. Below the cover are buttons for 'Read Online', 'Download', 'Add to Bookshelf', and 'Download Citations'. On the right, a description of the book is provided, followed by a 'Details' tab and a 'Table of Contents' tab. A table lists the book's metadata.

**UNIVERSITY OF LONDON**  
**Browns Books**

**The rule of law**  
Bingham, Tom

Tom Bingham examines what the rule of law actually means. He briefly examines the historical origins of the rule and then advances eight conditions which capture its essence as understood in western democracies today. He also discusses the strains imposed on the rule of law by the threat and experience of international terrorism.

Details		Table of Contents	
<b>Author</b>	Bingham, Tom		
<b>EAN</b>	9780141962016		
<b>Publisher</b>	Penguin		
<b>Published</b>	04/02/2010		
<b>Pages</b>	157		
<b>Book Format</b>	EPUB		

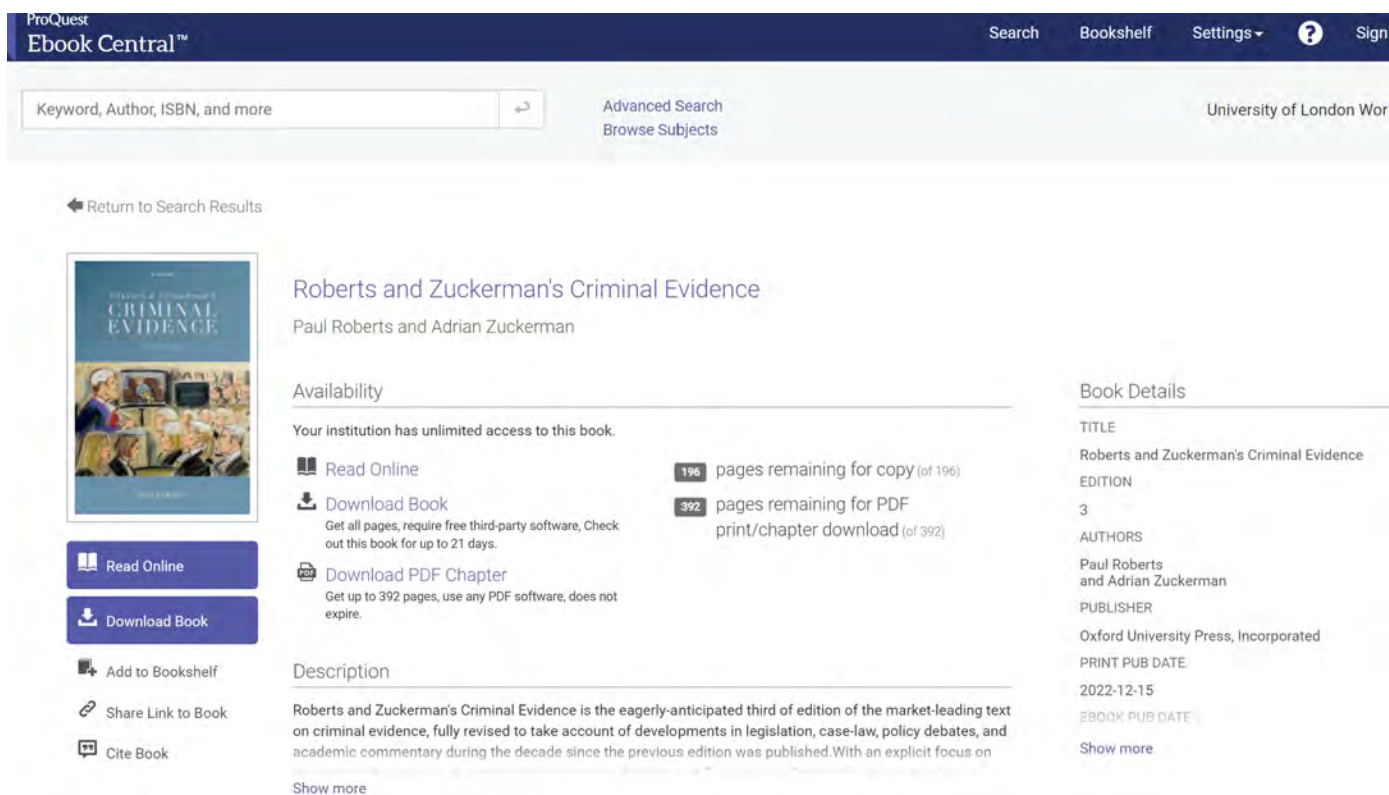
VLeBooks e-books can be read online or downloaded using [Adobe Digital editions software](#). Find out more about downloading e-books in the [FAQ](#).

Books can be downloaded for a specified time, after which they expire but can be downloaded again as many times as needed.

Some books have a limit to the number of students who can access it at once, much like in a physical library. When a book is in use you can add yourself to a queue to be notified by email when it is available for you to read. Find out more about queuing for books in the [FAQ](#).

# Accessing E-books: E-book Central (ProQuest)

Access E-book Central (Proquest) with your student portal username and password either from the results of a Summon search, a link to a book in your VLE or [directly](#) from your database list on your Online Library [UG Laws Study Programme Gateway](#).



The screenshot displays the ProQuest Ebook Central interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Search', 'Bookshelf', 'Settings', and 'Sign' options. Below this is a search bar with the placeholder text 'Keyword, Author, ISBN, and more' and a search button. To the right of the search bar are links for 'Advanced Search' and 'Browse Subjects'. The main content area shows the book 'Roberts and Zuckerman's Criminal Evidence' by Paul Roberts and Adrian Zuckerman. The book cover is on the left. To the right of the cover, there are buttons for 'Read Online', 'Download Book', 'Add to Bookshelf', 'Share Link to Book', and 'Cite Book'. The 'Availability' section states 'Your institution has unlimited access to this book.' and lists options: 'Read Online' (196 pages remaining for copy of 196), 'Download Book' (392 pages remaining for PDF print/chapter download of 392), and 'Download PDF Chapter' (Get up to 392 pages, use any PDF software, does not expire). The 'Description' section provides a brief overview of the book's content. On the right side, the 'Book Details' section lists the title, edition (3), authors (Paul Roberts and Adrian Zuckerman), publisher (Oxford University Press, Incorporated), print publication date (2022-12-15), and ebook publication date.

E-book Central books can be read online or downloaded using [Adobe Digital editions software](#). Find out more about downloading e-books in the [FAQ](#).

If an e-book central book is not owned by the Online Library you can view a 5 minute preview. Select the request button and complete the form to request that it is added to the Online Library collection.

In addition to VLeBooks and E-Book Central (Proquest), e-books are also available in other Online Library databases:

## Cambridge Core

Access [Cambridge Core](#) with your student portal password.

A selection of the law e-books available are:

- Anghie, A. [Imperialism, sovereignty and the making of international law](#).
- Beccaria, C. ['On Crimes and Punishments' and Other Writings](#)
- De Schutter, O. [International human rights law: cases, materials, commentary](#).
- Hallaq, [Shari'a: theory, practice, transformations](#).
- Harlow, C. and R. Rawlings [Law and administration](#).
- Hartley, T. [International commercial litigation: text, cases and materials on private international law](#).

# Westlaw

Access [Westlaw](#) e-books by selecting Westlaw Books from the menu across the top of the homepage.

Journals ▾ Current Awareness ▾ Index of Legal Terms EU **Westlaw Books**

Westlaw e-books are mainly practitioner texts, including Palmer's Company Law and the White Book.

Did you know Westlaw's **Index to Legal Terms** includes access to these dictionaries?

- Jowitt's Dictionary of English Law.
- Stroud's Judicial Dictionary of Words and Phrases.
- Osborn's Concise Law Dictionary
- Access the Index to Legal Terms from the navigation bar on the home page.

Cases ▾ Legislation ▾ Journals ▾ Current Awareness ▾ **Index of Legal Terms**

# Lexis+

Log into Lexis+ from the [Lexis+ database page](#). Access e-books by selecting **Content** from the Explore menu. Select **Books & Journals**, then under content type, select **Books**. Here you can browse the list of available titles, or search for content within all books using the search bar at the top of the page.

A Selection of the books available in Lexis+ are

- **Bennion, Bailey and Norbury on Statutory Interpretation 2022**
- **Blackstone's Criminal Practice 2023** – a single point of reference on criminal law and procedure covering all areas of criminal law. Includes the full updated text of the Criminal Procedure rules and the Sentencing Guidelines.
- **Glanville Williams & Dennis Baker Treatise of Criminal Law 5th Edition**
- **Halsbury's Laws of England** – a legal encyclopedia that provides the only comprehensive

Lexis+ UK

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# KluwerArbitration

To access [KluwerArbitration](#), complete the [Kluwer Arbitration request form](#) to request a password.

Kluwer Arbitration e-books are available from the **Books** tab on the home page.

A selection of the e-books available are:

- [Essays on mediation: dealing with disputes in the 21st century: global trends in dispute resolution. Macduff, I. \(ed\) \(2016\)](#)
- [Concise International Arbitration, Mistelis \(ed\) \(2015\)](#) - a succinct, accessible and authoritative commentary.
- [Redfern and Hunter on International Arbitration \(2015\)](#) - Reviews the legal context within which international commercial arbitration operates.
- [International Arbitration: Law and Practice, Born \(2021\)](#) – provides a comprehensive coverage of the basic principles and legal doctrines, and the practice, of international arbitration.
- ICCA Congress Series - reports and commentary presented at International Council for Commercial Arbitration congresses and conferences.

# HeinOnline

[HeinOnline](#)'s homepage lists the available databases.

For example, **Legal Classics** includes more than 10,000 works from some of the greatest legal minds in history including Jeremy Bentham, William Blackstone, William Holdsworth, Frederick William Maitland, Frederick Pollock, Benjamin E. Cardozo, and many more!

# Contact us

If you need any help with e-books, please contact the [Online Library Enquiry Service](#) directly by:

- Email: [onlinelibrary@london.ac.uk](mailto:onlinelibrary@london.ac.uk)
- [Ask a Librarian Live Chat](#)
- [Web form](#)
- Telephone: +44 (0)20 7862 8478 between 9.00 and 17.00 London time, Monday to Friday.