

IGS Library Workshop

Accessing current & historical news

May 7, 2026 12pm to 1pm



News you can use!

Workshop Goals

We will be able to successfully answer the following questions:

- How do I get access to a particular article I saw online that is behind a paywall?
- How do I get access to a specific newspaper without a personal subscription?
- Do we have access to [Newspapers.com](https://www.newspapers.com)? (How do I find out which newspaper databases UCB has access to?)
- Are there any newspapers that I can use for my research, with TDM and AI?

Background

Ways to access news content

- **Publishers platform** e.g. [nytimes.com](https://www.nytimes.com) - paywalled content requires a personal subscription; libraries are not able to provide enterprise access to these sites.
- **News aggregator database**, libraries subscribe to so you don't have to; can search across multiple news sources or search a single newspaper.
- **News aggregator site** that compiles news from various sources, some articles are open, some require personal subscription to access, e.g. Apple News.
- **Original layout (print) vs. .com site vs. text only** - due to contract and licensing of news content, text only of articles may be the only option freely available.

Connecting to online databases when off-campus

- If WebAuth doesn't work, use the VPN - Details are available via the [Library Proxy](#) guide. Ask Us! Come to the IGS Library or email us igsl@berkeley.edu if you encounter issues

Discovery & Search Tips - UCB resources

1. For digital copies available to you at UCB, look for a newspaper title or article database using the [Library A to Z Database List](#) (**I recommend bookmarking this!**)
2. Search by newspaper or database title in [UC Library Search](#) (the library catalog, that shows holdings across the UC's) - especially for historical holding of papers that may not be digitized.
3. Use the Source lists provided by databases to find out which newspapers are included and what the temporal coverage is! NOTE: due to copyright and licensing issues, coverage can and will change over time in the databases!
4. Library staff are here to assist!!! Email us: igsl@berkeley.edu

Small towns and rural news

- Current issues - check online; check the public library in the town or county
- Check to see if they are included in Access World News
- Rural News Network <https://ruralnewsnetwork.org/newsroom/>
- Research on local news: [State of Local News](#), Northwestern University

Major US Daily Newspapers available at UCB

[Oakland Tribune](#) - via Newspaper Archive by Storied, 1874-2009

[San Francisco Chronicle](#) -via Access World News, original layout and text only depending on date

[San Jose Mercury News](#) via Access World News, original layout and text only depending on date

[Sacramento Bee](#) via Access World News, original layout and text only depending on date

[Los Angeles Times](#) via ProQuest, text only

[New York Times](#) via ProQuest, text only, 1980-current, historical coverage also available: [1857-1922](#) and [1923-2022](#)

[nytimes.com](#) UCB students have free subscriptions to the NY Times website while enrolled at UCB. UCB staff and faculty are not included. Visit [www.accessnyt.com](#), enter University of California Berkeley and register with your @berkeley email address.

[Wall Street Journal](#) via ProQuest, text only, 1984-current

[wsj.com](#) UC Berkeley students, faculty and staff have free subscriptions to the WSJ website. To activate your WSJ membership, please visit [this page](#) and create an account using your Berkeley email address.

[Washington Post](#) via ProQuest, text only

Major Newspaper Databases available at UCB

Good for topical searches or browsing!

*NOTE: this is not exhaustive! Search the [Library A to Z Database List](#) for additional [News](#)

Database title	Database publisher	Description
Access World News	Newsbank	Go-to source for US local news, esp. Local CA news. Also good for international and non-US national news. As of May 2026, 13,007 sources are indexed + full text; time coverage varies depending on source.
Ethnic Newswatch	ProQuest	Access to ethnic, minority, and native news sources and scholarly sources. Searchable in English and Spanish.
Factiva	Dow Jones	Access to current business news, includes major US and International papers like WSJ,
NexisUni	LexisNexis	US and Global News, does not include
ProQuest Major Daily Newspapers	ProQuest	US focus;

Newspaper Databases available from your local public library

- Access to major US Dailies, including San Francisco Chronicle, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post.
- Need a current library card

NOTE: public library access to major dailies often requires continued “renewals” after 3 days.

Search tip

From your local public library homepage, look for a page on E-Resources, Online Resources, News, or Newspapers

Berkeley Public Library

- **Online Magazines and Newspapers**
<https://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org/explore/elibrary/emagazines-and-eneews>
- Press Reader app - access to national and international newspapers; digital version of print paper not the .com sites.
 - NY Times
 - Foreign Affairs
 - The New Yorker

Oakland Public Library

- **Newspapers** <https://oaklandlibrary.org/resources-types/newspapers/>
- Black Panther Newspaper Collection via Alexander Street Press: Click Login, Search for and Select Oakland Public Library

News Sources licensed for textual analysis

Recommended reading:

Using AI and Text Mining with Library Resources: What Every UC Berkeley Researcher Needs to Know, <https://update.lib.berkeley.edu/tag/ai/>

LibGuide: [Text Mining and AI Research Resources](#)

- [TDM Platforms](#) - ProQuest TDM Studio
- [LexisNexis WebServices API](#)

For additional support, contact the UCB Library: tdm-access@berkeley.edu

News Magazines

Title	UCB Access (licensed by UCB)	BPL Access (Digital version of print)	OPL Access
New Yorker	Print and Online	Press reader and Libby	Libby
NYT Review of Books	Print Online	Libby	Libby
Foreign Affairs	Print and online via article databases	Press Reader	
The Atlantic	Print and online via article databases	Not available	Not Available
The Economist	Print	Press Reader	Not Available