

# Research Tip – [West Academic Digital Reference Collection](#)

One of the many resources available from the law library is the [West Academic Digital Reference Collection](#). This collection provides electronic access to all of West Academic's **Nutshells**, **Hornbooks**, and **Concise Hornbooks**.

You can access the Digital Reference Collection from the library or any court computer.

## A. What's Included

**Nutshell Series:** Nutshells are compact study guides that explain the most important issues of law, highlighting key cases and statutes. Nutshells are written by recognized experts who present the essential rules of law in a uniquely condensed format.

**Hornbook Series:** Scholarly and definitive, Hornbooks explain the law in great depth and broaden understanding with insights into not only the law's historical development, but also its contemporary issues and future directions.

**Concise Hornbook Series:** The series features concise analyses of fundamental areas of the law by prominent legal scholars. Conveniently sized, yet expertly written to provide comprehensive coverage of the most crucial issues.

## B. How to Search for Titles

There are multiple search options available for West Academic:

### 1. Library Catalog

All titles available from West Academic are linked to the [library's catalog](#). First, enter your search terms in the search box. Then follow the link to be directed to the eBook.



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## 2. Global Search Bar

There are also several search options available from the West Academic homepage.



Use this option for general searching. Type in a title, author, keyword, or phrase to retrieve all items that include those search terms.

## 3. Browse by Subject



Use this option to see a full list of available subjects. Then select the subject to see all titles available for that topic.

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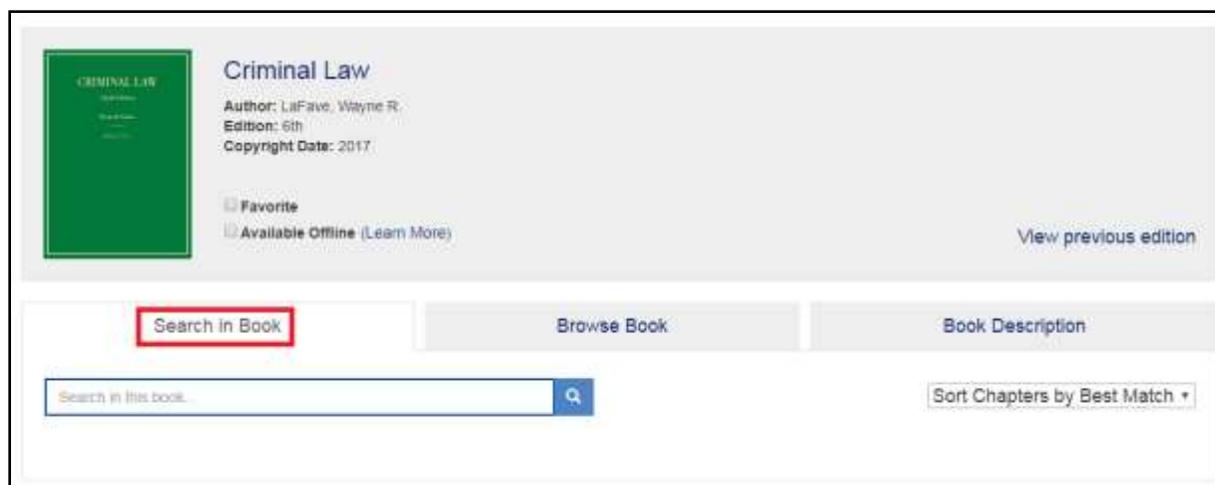
## 4. Browse by Series



Use this option to see titles available by series type.

## C. How to Search within a Title

Once you have chosen a book, there are additional options that allow you to navigate within that title. From the Product Details Page, select the Search in Book tab.



Enter keywords or phrases in the search bar to find every instance of that term throughout the book. The search results will be grouped together by chapters and listed in order of frequency.

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The screenshot shows a search interface with three tabs: "Search in Book", "Browse Book", and "Book Description". The "Search in Book" tab is active. A search bar contains the text "miranda" and a magnifying glass icon. To the right of the search bar is a dropdown menu labeled "Sort Chapters by Best Match". Below the search bar, it states "9 chapters have results for miranda". The results are listed in a table-like format:

Chapter 6. Acts, Concurrence and Consequences	4 results
State v. Miranda, 245 Conn. 209, 715 A.2d 680 (1998)	
(collecting cases in accord, and noting "the key element is *** whether the adult intended to assume parental duties".) But see the <i>Miranda</i> case, note 101 infra.	
(court relied upon the first <i>Miranda</i> ruling infra in holding that a woman who cohabited with a man and his young child, by which there "established a personal relationship akin to that of a parent," had a duty of care toward the child).	
State v. Miranda, 274 Conn. 727, 878 A.2d 1118 (2005)	
<a href="#">Open Chapter</a>	
Chapter 8. Insanity—Procedural Considerations	4 results
Table of Cases	5 results

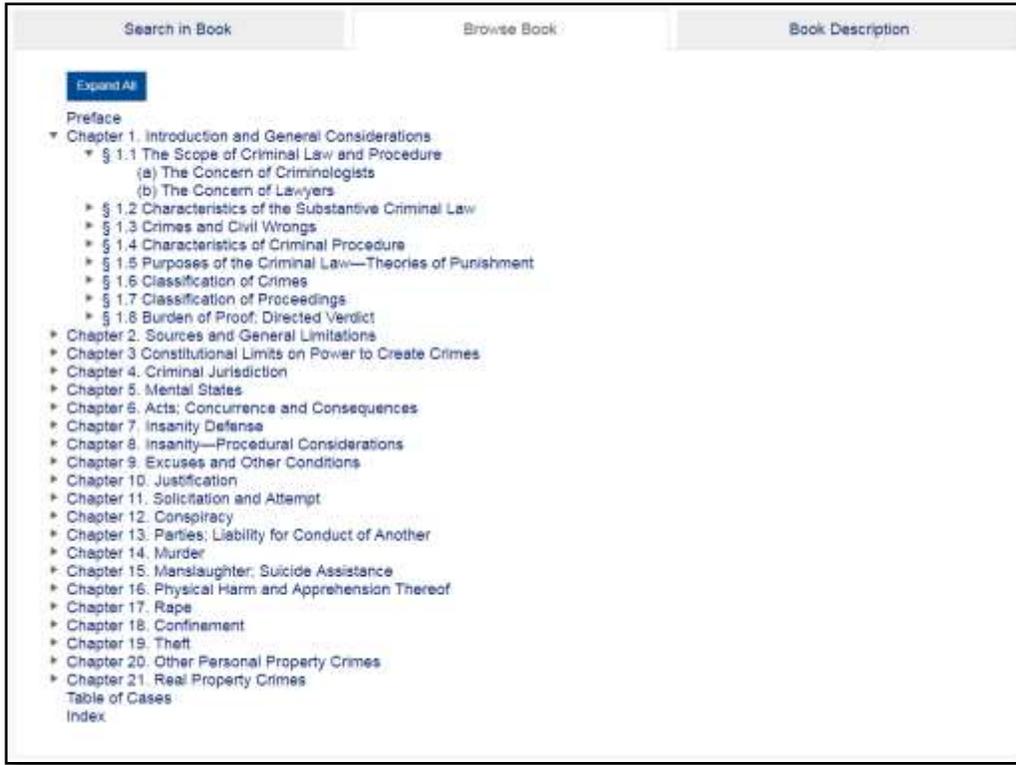
### D. How to Browse within a Title

From the Product Details Page, select the Browse Book tab.

The screenshot shows the product details page for "Criminal Law". On the left is a green book cover with the title "CRIMINAL LAW" and the author's name "Wayne R. LaFare". To the right of the cover, the text reads: "Criminal Law", "Author: LaFare, Wayne R.", "Edition: 6th", and "Copyright Date: 2017". Below this text are two checkboxes: "Favorite" and "Available Offline (Learn More)". To the right of these checkboxes is a link "View previous edition". At the bottom of the page are three tabs: "Search in Book", "Browse Book", and "Book Description". The "Browse Book" tab is highlighted with a red box.

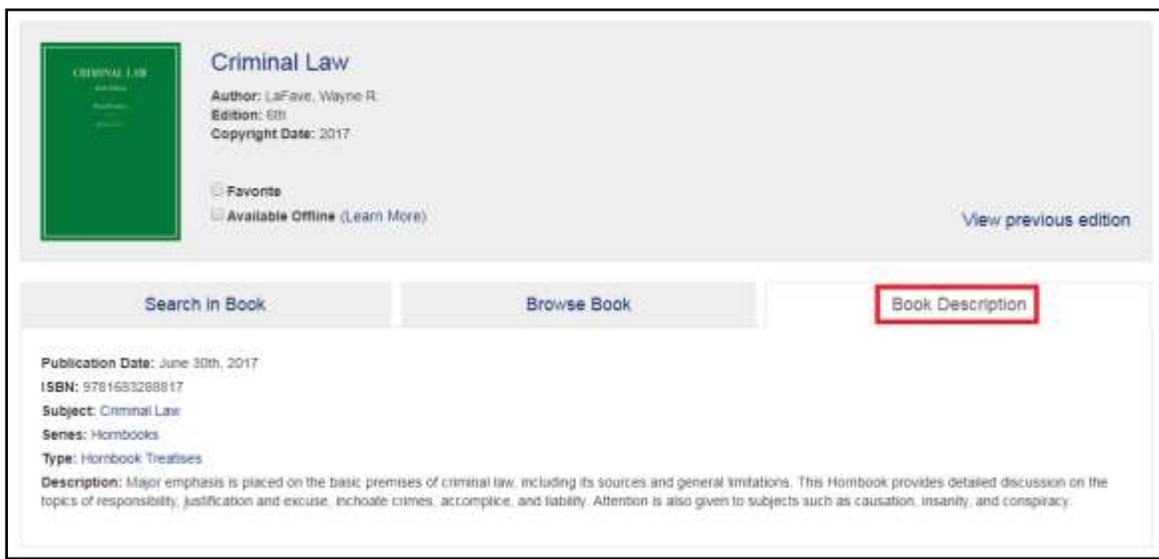
The Browse Book tab will provide a table of contents for the book. Select any chapter, section, or subsection from the browse menu to jump directly to that place in the book.

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## E. How to View Book Details

From the Product Details Page, select the Book Description tab.



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The Book Description tab provides general details about the book, including title, author, publication date, subject, and description.

### **G. Further Information**

For more information, see the [West Academic Reference Collection FAQ](#) or contact Ashley Stewart at [astewart@akcourts.us](mailto:astewart@akcourts.us) or (907) 264-0583.