

# **Supreme Court Coverage & Analytics Application, Version 2.0**

## **User Manual**

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# Introduction

The Supreme Court Coverage/Analysis Tool (SCOTUSApp) is a web application that collects and stores U.S. Supreme Court-related news articles and allows users to view and download them.

## History

SCOTUSApp was originally developed by computer science students at the University of Kentucky at the request of Dr. Wedeking and Dr. Zilis of the UK Political Science department in the fall of 2017. The tool has since been worked on by several students, but is now maintained by Evan Cole and Darin Ellis, UK alumni and former members of the original development team.

## Description

SCOTUSApp will automatically collect Supreme Court-related articles from the internet throughout the day. These articles are stored in a database and can be viewed using a web page. Filters can be applied to view a subset of the articles, which can then be downloaded directly to your computer.

## Platform Requirements

SCOTUSApp is a web application and, as such, can be accessed on any platform by using a web browser.

## Developer Contact Information

Questions and bug reports should be sent to the project email:  
ukscotusapp@gmail.com

# Supported Web Browsers

## **Google Chrome**

We can guarantee full functionality of the webpages when they are viewed on the Google Chrome web browser.

## **Others**

The Safari web browser, while not as thoroughly tested, should also be suitable. Other web browsers should work as well, but we cannot guarantee that they will.

# Webpages

## Search

In figure below you can see an example of the Search (or main) page. By default it displays all articles. You can search the stored articles by entering your search terms in the search bar. The search terms will be found in both the keywords and title of a given article. You can also search for articles within a specific range of dates by selecting the bounds in the boxes below the search bar. You can also download the articles by clicking the Download buttons - see Downloading Articles for more information. Click the article title to view the contents of that article. You can use the Restart button on the top right to clear all of your search terms and filters.

The screenshot shows the 'US Supreme Court Analysis Tool' web application. The interface includes a search bar with a 'Submit' button, date range selectors ('From' and 'To'), and buttons for 'Restart' and 'Download Results'. A sidebar on the left lists 'Sources (1466)' with an 'Apply Filter' button and a list of source abbreviations like '1063thegroove', '10news', '10tv', etc. The main content area displays a table of search results with columns for 'Title', 'Source', and 'Date'. The table lists various Supreme Court-related news items, such as 'The Supreme Court just took up the first big voting rights case of the Kavanaugh era' and 'Will Zuckerberg's "Supreme Court" be as anti-science as his rightwing "fact-checkers"?'. The browser's address bar shows the URL 'localhost/Supreme-Court-Analysis-App/webapp/index.php'.

Title	Source	Date
The Supreme Court just took up the first big voting rights case of the Kavanaugh era	thinkprogress	2018-11-20
Will Zuckerberg's 'Supreme Court' be as anti-science as his rightwing 'fact-checkers'?	thinkprogress	2018-11-19
Supreme Court urged to undo Pa. school's pro-trans bathroom policy	washingtonblade	2018-11-19
Bayview Cross: Supreme Court could decide if it will hear Janusit appeal as soon as Dec. 7	pej	2018-11-19
US Supreme Court Could Take Your Lake Michigan Beach Rights Away in 2019	k18025	2018-11-19
Supreme Court declines to hear Baldwin County manslaughter case	mybc15	2018-11-19
Sotomayor To Kavanaugh: Welcome To The Supreme Court 'Family'	huffingtonpost	2018-11-19
Kenny Griffin will lead Mississippi Court of Appeals as chief judge	clarionledger	2018-11-19
Retired Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy speaks on the Court's role, importance of civility	cavalierdaily	2018-11-19
Will Supreme Court Reargument of the Knick Takings Case Come Down to the Federal ...	reason	2018-11-19
As challenges multiply to appointment of acting AG, Supreme Court is asked to weigh in	abajournal	2018-11-19
Federal Court Tosses Challenge to Maryland Ban on Bump Stocks	courthousenews	2018-11-19
Facebook speech appeals court: Will Zuckerberg give it any power?	slate	2018-11-19
In This Case, It's Neil Gorsuch And Sonia Sotomayor Against The Rest	dailycaller	2018-11-19
Supreme Court asked to block appointment of Whitaker as AG	jurist	2018-11-19
Will Abortion Become Illegal? Democrats in New Mexico Are Making Plans in Case Supreme Court ...	newsweek	2018-11-19
Boyetown students ask US Supreme Court to hear appeal of transgender bathroom challenge	mcall	2018-11-19
Racial Justice and Legal Pot Are Colliding in Congress	politico	2018-11-18
Sonia Sotomayor: Brett Kavanaugh is part of Supreme Court 'family'	foxnews	2018-11-18
Case Could Upset a Key Source of Cash for Local Courts	usnews	2018-11-18
Shaked strives for a more conservative Supreme Court	jpost	2018-11-18

## Article View

You can get to the article view page (shown in the figure below) from the Search page by clicking on the title of the article you want to view. You can navigate back to the search page by using the Restart button on the right or by using your browser's back button. The top left box shows the author, source, publication date, and the original URL of the article. It also displays the "sentiment" and "magnitude" of the text. These values, provided through the use of Google's Natural Language API, indicate the tone and force of the article, respectively. The bottom left box lists the keywords of the article text. The top right box will display the article's body of text. The bottom right box shows the top image of the article, as well as entities matched to the image.

The screenshot displays a web application titled "US Supreme Court Analysis Tool". The interface is divided into several sections:

- Details:** A box on the left containing metadata for the article:
  - Author: Hansi Le Wang
  - Source: npr
  - Publication Date: 2018-11-15
  - URL: <https://www.npr.org/2018/11/15/681111111...>
  - Sentiment Score: 0.2
  - Magnitude: 9.7
- Key Words:** A box below the details containing a list of keywords: supreme, census, question, lawsuits, evidence, dispute, weigh, prior, record, commerce, court, furman, citizenship.
- Article Text:** The main content area on the right displays the full text of the article, titled "Supreme Court To Weigh In On Dispute Over Census Citizenship Question Evidence". The text discusses the Supreme Court's upcoming decision on a citizenship question for the 2020 census, the controversy surrounding its inclusion, and the legal challenges.
- Restart Button:** A small button in the top right corner labeled "Restart".

# Downloading Articles

To download the articles currently displayed on the Search page, click the Download button on the Search page. This will download a .zip file containing a .csv file and many .txt files. The .csv file lists all the articles with their important information, while the body of text is stored in a .txt file keyed to that article through the “article ID” element in the .csv file.