Searching for USA cases in Lexis Advance (International)
Access the Lexis Advance (International) database
https://library.westernsydney.edu.au/main/resources/LexisAdvance

Contents:
- Locating a specific case
  - using the case citation
  - using the case party names
- Searching for any cases on a topic

1. Locating a specific case – using the case citation

If you have the citation for the case e.g. 433 NW 2d 871 (1988), the quickest method of locating the case is using the Search Everything Box.

A few points to note:
- The case summary & headnote is displayed at the start
- The page numbering is shown in this format [*871]
- more than 1 asterisk in the numbering e.g. [**502] denotes the case is published in multiple report series – single asterisk numbers are from the 1st report series & double asterisk numbers are from the 2nd report series etc.
• The asterisk/s associated with each report series is displayed near the top of the page e.g.

Another method of locating the case using the case citation is as follows:

Step 1 – Choose ‘Cases’ and search by either Court, Circuit or State.

Step 2 – Print, save or email the case

○ The asterisk/s associated with each report series is displayed near the top of the page

2. Locating a specific case - using the party names e.g. In re Saganski or Roe v Wade

Step 1 – Select Cases by Party name from the Get a Doc Assistance menu

Step 2 – Type one or both party names into the Party search box/s

If the case name is in the format of In re Saganski, leave out the ‘in re’ and just type in the one party name.
Step 3 – Select a jurisdiction from the drop down menu and click on the search button the Get a Doc Assistance menu

Step 4: If there is more than 1 result, Select the correct case from the list

NB: for a long list of results, select Edit Search and add a date range or a specific jurisdiction. You can sort the results by Relevance. Remember it is easiest to search by citation where possible.
3. Searching for any cases on a topic

For a quick simple search:

Step 1 – Select Cases
Content Type from the Explore Content Box

Step 2 – Select Advanced Search
Step 3 – Enter keywords into the ‘Terms’ box. Narrow search by Jurisdiction/Court and date range if appropriate by clicking on the ‘Add’ button.

Tip: if you already have a U.S. case on topic, take note of the ‘core terms’ associated with the case & search using a combination of those terms to find similar cases.

Step 4 – Results are automatically sorted by Relevance.

Note the symbol associated with each case = a summary of how later cases have treated that case (similar to the symbols in the Australian CaseBase Cases & FirstPoint products)

Step 5 – Shepardize (update or note up) cases before relying on them as authorities by clicking on the symbol associated with the case.
Shepards provides the subsequent history of the case i.e. it shows how the case has been treated by later cases & consequently whether it remains good law. This is the U.S. equivalent to CaseBase Cases.