The Academic Vocabulary List

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Sample of core technical words. Complete lists and detailed information at: www.academicwords.info.

These are words that are much more frequent in one or two sub-genres of the nine academic sub-genres in COCA (per million words). This sample is from [Law / Political Science].

	genre	lemma	PoS	freqAcad	ratioAcad	freqLaw	ratioLaw
1	Law	law	n	51833	1.24	23166	4.39
2	Law	court	n	34191	1.10	19887	5.71
3	Law	party	n	32474	0.92	11408	3.45
4	Law	federal	j	22557	0.88	8478	3.69
6	Law	legal	j	17055	1.24	6750	3.89
7	Law	firm	n	17023	1.26	5258	3.03
8	Law	note	n	16217	1.18	6158	3.73
9	His+Law	democratic	j	15184	1.04	5391	3.49
11	His+Law	regime	n	14408	2.21	4638	3.16
12	His+Law	democracy	n	14105	1.79	4362	3.04
13	His+Law	election	n	12219	0.76	3786	3.04
14	Law	regulation	n	12193	1.75	4449	3.58
16	Law	provision	n	8555	2.09	3607	4.14
17	Law	liberal	j	8117	1.43	2815	3.41
18	Law	bill	n	8094	0.23	2477	3.00
19	Law	constitution	n	7664	1.87	3315	4.25
21	Law	convention	n	7432	1.27	2384	3.15
22	Law	amendment	n	7357	1.64	4375	5.84

Note: In order to be included in the technical / sub-genre lists, the word must occur at least three times as frequently (per million words) as would otherwise be expected (based on the size of the sub-genre).

Columns	Limit	Explanation
lemma		The word; actually the lemma (where e.g. [law] = {law, laws})
PoS		Part of speech (**n**oun, **v**erb, ad**j**ective, adve**r**b, etc)
freqAcad		The overall frequency in COCA Academic
ratioAcad		Compare to [ratio] above. Words with a low number (i.e. below 1.50 are actually less frequent in Academic than in COCA as a whole, but they are still included in these lists, because they do below to the specific sub-genre
freqGenre		The frequency in the sub-genre (e.g. *freqLaw*)
ratioGenre	**3.00**	A ratio showing how much more frequent the word is in the sub-genre than in COCA Academic overall (per million words)