

Legal Research and Writing I (LRW I)
Fall 2023
First Week's Assignments

- I. REGISTRATIONS TO COMPLETE DURING THE FIRST WEEK FALL SEMESTER
With some registrations, you will need additional information from your professor which will be given to you during the first week.

II. BOOKS

Title: A Lawyer Writes: A Practical Guide to Legal Analysis [ALW]
Authors: Christine Coughlin, Joan Malmud Rocklin, Sandy Patrick
Publisher: Carolina Academic Press
Edition: Third Edition (2018)
ISBN#: 9781531008765

Title: Becoming a Legal Writer [BLW]
Author: Robin Boyle-Laisure, Christine Coughlin, and Sandy Patrick
Publisher: Carolina Academic Press
Edition: First Edition (2019)
ISBN#: 978-1-5310-0448-4

Title: The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation [BB]
Author: The Harvard Law Review Association
Publisher: The Harvard Law Review Association (<https://www.legalbluebook.com/>)
Edition: 21st. ed. (2020)
ISBN#: 9780578666150

Title: Understanding and Mastering the Bluebook: A Guide for Students and Practitioners (4th ed. 2020). [UMB]
Author: Linda J. Barris
Publisher: Carolina Academic Press
Edition: Fourth Edition (2020)
ISBN#: 9781531019150

Title: Legal Research Demystified: A Step-by-Step Approach [LRD2d]
Author: Eric P. Voigt
Publisher: Carolina Academic Press
Edition: **Second Edition (2022) NOTE that this is a NEW EDITION.**
ISBN# 9781531021306

Title: LRW Manual (to be posted on the LRW Department TWEN page (Westlaw site).

Title: Various articles or other material posted by your Professor on your class TWEN site.

III. WORKSHOPS

Throughout the semester, various workshops will be offered to help you succeed by the LRW Teaching Assistants (TA's) and the FAMU Main Campus Writing Resource Center (WRC). These workshops will also be held throughout the semester with times to be determined.

IV. READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS FOR FIRST WEEK OF CLASSES

Your Professor may have additional readings, exercises, and assignments.

WEEK ONE

Class 1: Tuesday, 8/15 JOINT Class in Room 240.

Topics:

- The Importance of Legal Writing.
- The Importance of Professionalism and Academic Integrity:
 - Emails and other Communications;
 - In and out of the Classroom.
- How Attorneys Communicate with Focus on Objective, Office Memoranda.
- Transitioning your Writing from College and LawHub to LRW Student.
- Your Reader, Purpose, and Substance Dictate your Structure:
IRAC vs. CREAC (More detail later).
- Completing Class Registrations, Sign-Ups, and Logistics in General.

Readings:

- ALW, Chapter 1, pp 3-14
- Review FAMU Law Student Handbook.
- Professionalism and The Florida Bar,

<https://www.floridabar.org/prof/regulating-professionalism/professionalism-expectations-2/>

- Gerald Lebovits, The Writing Process for New Lawyers: Getting It Written and Right, 89 N.Y. St. B.J. 80 (May 2017), at

https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2967050

Assignments and Exercises:

- In Class 1, we will complete Online Registrations and Sign-Ups.
- Prepare a short presentation (< three minutes) to introduce yourself to your classmates to deliver starting on Wednesday, 8/16. You must include Powerpoint (PP) slides, but you are limited to a maximum of two slides, and the slides must contain your name.

DUE: Wednesday, 8/16, by 5 pm. Upload to your section's TWEN page. Suggestions for your Slides:

(1) Your Hometown; (2) Undergraduate Institution; (3) Why Law School?; (3) Hobbies/Favorites in Your Life; and (4) Future Plans.

- Core Grammar Pre-Test. **DUE: Sunday, 8/20, by 11:59 pm online on Core Grammar.** You do not need to send anything to your Professor. You **must** take the Pre-Test to have access to the later test which will be part of your final grade.

**ASSIGNMENT DUE: Personal Introduction PP Slides (max of two slides with your name).
DUE: Wednesday, 8/16, by 5 pm, uploaded to TWEN or other website as directed.**

WEEK ONE (cont'd)

Class 2: Thursday, 8/17

Topics:

- Introduction to Syllabus, Course Calendar, and the Many Moving Parts of LRW I.
- Class Introductions Ongoing (under three minutes per student).
- The United States Legal System: Sources and Systems of the Law.
- Completing Remaining Class Registrations.

Readings:

- ALW, Chapter 2, pp.15-31.
- BLW, Chapter 2, pp.19-28.

Assignments and Exercises Due:

- Personal Introductions Ongoing.
- Be prepared to discuss with an assigned group
- Completing Class Registrations.
- Core Grammar Pre-Test. **DUE Sunday, 8/20, by 11:59 pm.**