The following list of prelaw readings offers prospective law students an overview of selected classics and current titles in certain subjects: law school and legal education, the legal profession, biography, jurisprudence and legal issues, and financing a law school education. Some of these publications list sources for financial aid, but students will need to call or write the individual organizations for the most up-to-date information.

This list should not be construed as the official bibliography of the Law School Admission Council or the American Bar Association; it is beyond the scope of those organizations to provide any sort of definitive catalog of prelaw readings.

Some of these books have already withstood the test of time and are as relevant today as when they were first written and published generations ago. Examples are Richard Kluger’s Simple Justice—a rare glimpse into the private workings and deliberations of the Supreme Court, and Karl Llewellyn’s The Bramble Bush—a classic study of how legal education shapes our legal institutions.

Some titles simply reflect the most current writing on the subjects listed above and are not necessarily recommended simply because they appear on this list. It will be up to you to search out the titles that pique your interest and make your own determination of their worth. The aim of our list is merely to give you a head start. We hope that those interested in pursuing legal studies will find the issues raised and the ideas discussed in these works helpful in making the decision to choose law as a career.

Law School and Legal Education


Legal Profession


BioGraphy


Jurisprudence and Legal Issues


Financing Law School


The following directories, published by Reference Service Press, are updated periodically. Check with the publisher or your local library for more information. This listing does not imply endorsement or recommendation by LSAC.