

RESOURCES FOR THE PRELAW CANDIDATE

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

Law School and Legal Education

- Ariens, Michael.** *Law School: Getting In, Getting Out, Getting On.* Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2010.
- Bodine, Paul.** *Great Personal Statements for Law School.* New York: McGraw-Hill, 2006.
- Boyer, Paul.** *College Rankings Exposed.* Lawrenceville, NJ: Peterson's, 2003.
- Calleros, Charles R.** *Law School Exams: Preparing and Writing to Win.* New York: Aspen Publishers, 2007.
- Carrabis, Andrew B., and Seth D. Haimovitch.** *The Art of the Law School Transfer: A Guide to Transferring Law Schools.* Honolulu: Fine Print Press, 2009.
- Carter, Lief H., and Thomas F. Burke.** *Reason in Law.* 8th ed. New York: Longman, 2009.
- Christensen, Leah M.** *Learning Outside the Box: A Handbook for Law Students Who Learn Differently.* Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2011.
- Cooper, Charles.** *Later in Life Lawyers: Tips for the Non-Traditional Law Student.* 2nd ed. Honolulu: Fine Print Press, 2012.
- Curll, Joyce Putnam.** *The Best Law Schools' Admissions Secrets: The Essential Guide from Harvard's Former Admissions Dean.* Naperville, IL: Sourcebooks, Inc., 2008.
- Curry, Boykin, and Emily Angel Baer, eds.** *Essays That Worked for Law Schools (Revised and Updated): 40 Essays from Successful Applications to the Nation's Top Law Schools.* New York: Ballantine Books, 2003.
- Dillon, Michael R.** *How to Think About Law School: A Handbook for Undergraduates and Their Parents.* New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2013.
- Doria, Juan.** *The Slacker's Guide to Law School: Success Without Stress.* Honolulu: Fine Print Press, 2008.
- Evensen, Dorothy, and Carla D. Pratt.** *The End of the Pipeline: A Journey of Recognition for African Americans Entering the Legal Profession.* Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2012.
- Farnsworth, E. Allan.** *An Introduction to the Legal System of the United States.* Fourth ed. New York: Oxford University Press, USA, 2010.
- 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.
- Fischl, Richard Michael, and Jeremy Paul.** *Getting to Maybe: How to Excel on Law School Exams.* Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 1999.
- Furi-Perry, Ursula.** *Law School Revealed: Secrets, Opportunities, and Success!* Indianapolis: JIST Works, 2009.
- Gallacher, Ian.** *Coming to Law School: How to Prepare Yourself for the Next Three Years.* Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2010.
- George, Tracey E., and Suzanna Sherry.** *What Every Law Student Really Needs to Know: An Introduction to the Study of Law.* New York: Aspen Publishers, 2009.
- Hamilton, Neil W.** *Roadmap: The Law Student's Guide to Preparing and Implementing a Successful Plan for Meaningful Employment.* Chicago: American Bar Association, 2015.
- Hibbard, Derrick.** *Law School Fast Track: Essential Habits for Law School Success.* Honolulu: Fine Print Press, 2010.
- Hricik, David.** *Law School Basics: A Preview of Law School and Legal Reasoning.* Los Angeles: Nova Press, 2007.
- Iijima, Ann L.** *The Law Student's Pocket Mentor: From Surviving to Thriving.* New York: Aspen Publishers, 2007.
- Kaufman, Daniel, Chris Dowhan, and Adrienne Dowhan.** *Essays That Will Get You Into Law School.* 3rd ed. Hauppauge, NY: Barron's Educational Series, 2009.
- Lammert-Reeves, Ruth.** *Get Into Law School: A Strategic Approach.* 5th ed. New York: Kaplan, 2011.
- Levine, Ann K.** *The Law School Decision Game: A Playbook for Prospective Lawyers.* Santa Barbara, CA: Abraham Publishing, 2011.
- . *The Law School Admission Game: Play Like an Expert.* 2nd ed. Santa Barbara, CA: Abraham Publishing, 2013.
- Llewellyn, Karl N.** *The Bramble Bush: The Classic Lectures on the Law and Law School.* With a new introduction and notes by Steve Sheppard, ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 2008. (First published in 1930.)
- May, Kelsey, Samantha Roberts, and Elizabeth Shelton.** *What the L? 25 Things We Wish We'd Known Before Going to Law School.* Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2010.

- McClurg, Andrew J.** *1L of a Ride: A Well-Traveled Professor's Roadmap to Success in the First Year of Law School*. 2nd ed. St. Paul, MN: Thomson/West, 2012.
- . *The Companion Text to Law School: Understanding and Surviving Life with a Law Student*. St. Paul, MN: Thomson/West, 2012.
- McKinney, Ruth Ann.** *Reading Like a Lawyer: Time-Saving Strategies for Reading Law Like an Expert*. 2nd ed. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2012.
- Messinger, Thane Josef.** *Law School: Getting In, Getting Good, Getting the Gold*. Honolulu: Fine Print Press, 2008.
- Miller, Nelson P.** *A Law Student's Guide: Legal Education's Knowledge, Skills, and Ethics Dimensions*. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2010.
- Miller, Robert H.** *Law School Confidential—A Complete Guide to the Law School Experience: By Students, for Students*. Rev. ed. New York: St. Martin's Griffin (Thomas Dunne Books), 2011.
- Moliterno, James E., and Fredric Ira Lederer.** *An Introduction to Law, Law Study, and the Lawyer's Role*. 3rd ed. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2010.
- Moore, Albert J., and David A. Binder.** *Demystifying the First Year of Law School: A Guide to the 1L Experience*. New York: Aspen Publishers, 2010.
- Munneke, Gary A.** *How to Succeed in Law School*. 4th ed. Hauppauge, NY: Barron's Educational Series, 2008.
- Noreuil, Chad.** *The Zen of Law School Success*. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2011.
- Noyes, Shana Connell and Henry S. Noyes.** *Acing Your First Year of Law School: The Ten Steps to Success You Won't Learn in Class*. 2nd ed. Buffalo, NY: William S. Hein & Co., Inc., 2008.
- Nygren, Carolyn J.** *Starting off Right in Law School*. 2nd ed. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2011.
- Owens, Eric.** *Law School Essays That Made a Difference*. 4th ed. New York: Princeton Review, 2010.
- Ramy, Herbert N.** *Succeeding in Law School*. 2nd ed. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2010.
- Rapoport, Nancy B. and Jeffrey D. Van Niel.** *Law School Survival Manual: From LSAT to Bar Exam*. New York: Aspen Publishers, 2010.
- Rogers, Scott L.** *Mindfulness for Law Students: Using the Power of Mindful Awareness to Achieve Balance and Success in Law School*. Miami: Mindful Living Press, 2009.
- Schlag, Pierre, and David Skover.** *Tactics of Legal Reasoning*. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 1986.
- Schneider, Deborah, and Gary Belsky.** *Should You Really Be a Lawyer? The Guide to Smart Career Choices Before, During, and After Law School*. 2nd ed. Seattle: LawyerAvenue Press, 2010.
- Scott, Ian E.** *Law School Lowdown*. Hauppauge, NY: Barron's Educational Series, 2013.
- Sedberry, Steven R.** *Law School Labyrinth: A Guide to Making the Most of Your Legal Education*. New York: Kaplan Publishing, 2009.
- Sells, Benjamin.** *The Soul of the Law*. London: Vega Books, 2002.
- Shapo, Helene S., and Marshall Shapo.** *Law School Without Fear: Strategies for Success*. 3rd ed. New York: Foundation Press, 2009.
- Smith, A. T. H. and Glanville Williams.** *Learning the Law*. 14th ed. London: Sweet & Maxwell, Ltd., 2010.
- Stevens, Robert.** *Law School: Legal Education in America from the 1850s to the 1980s*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 1987.
- Stropus, Ruta K., and Charlotte D. Taylor.** *Bridging the Gap Between College and Law School: Strategies for Success*. 2nd ed. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2009.
- Turow, Scott.** *One L: The Turbulent True Story of a First Year at Harvard Law School*. New York: Penguin, 2010. (Originally published, 1997.)
- Vanderbilt, Arthur T.** *Law School: Briefing for a Legal Education*. New York: Penguin Books, 1981.
- VerSteeg, Russ.** *Essential Latin for Lawyers*. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 1990.
- Wydick, Richard C.** *Plain English for Lawyers*. 5th ed. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2005.

Legal Profession

- American Bar Association.** *Dear Sisters, Dear Daughters: Strategies for Success from Multicultural Women Attorneys*. Chicago: ABA Book Publishing, 2009.
- Anders, Kelly Lynn.** *The Organized Lawyer*. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2009.
- Bailey, F. Lee.** *To Be a Trial Lawyer*. 2nd ed. New York: Wiley, 2009.
- Blakely, Susan Smith.** *Best Friends at the Bar: What Women Need to Know about a Career in the Law*. New York: Aspen Publishers, 2010.
- Cameron, Bruce M.** *Becoming a Rural Lawyer: A Personal Guide to Establishing a Small Town Practice*. Seattle: DecisionBooks, 2013.
- Cho, Jeena, and Karen Gifford.** *The Anxious Lawyer: An 8-Week Guide to a Joyful and Satisfying Law Practice Through Mindfulness and Meditation*. Chicago: American Bar Association, 2015.
- Clanton, Karen, ed.** *Dear Sisters, Dear Daughters: Words of Wisdom from Multicultural Women Attorneys Who've Been There and Done That*. Chicago: ABA Book Publishing, 2000.
- Cleveland, Grover E.** *Swimming Lessons for Baby Sharks: The Essential Guide to Thriving as a New Lawyer*. St. Paul, MN: West, 2010.
- Couric, Emily.** *The Trial Lawyers: The Nation's Top Litigators Tell How They Win*. New York: St. Martin's Griffin, 1988.
- Daicoff, Susan Swaim.** *Comprehensive Law Practice: Law as a Healing Profession*. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2011.
- Elefant, Carolyn.** *Solo by Choice: How to Be the Lawyer You Always Wanted to Be*. Seattle: DecisionBooks, 2011.
- Elwork, Amiram.** *Stress Management for Lawyers: How to Increase Personal and Professional Satisfaction in the Law*. 3rd ed. North Wales, PA: Vorkell Group, 2007.
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- Finn, Erika, and Jessica Olmon.** *The Insider's Guide to Getting a Big Firm Job: What Every Law Student Should Know About Interviewing*. Honolulu: Fine Print Press, 2009.
- Fontaine, Valerie A.** *The Right Moves: Job Search and Career Development Strategies for Lawyers*. Washington, DC: NALP, 2006.

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- Grogan, Miriam Bamberger and Heather Bradley.** *Judge for Yourself: Clarity, Choice, and Action in Your Legal Career.* Chicago: American Bar Association, produced in cooperation with the Minority Corporate Counsel Association, 2006.
- Henry, Deborah Epstein.** *Law & ReOrder: Legal Industry Solutions for Restructure, Retention, Promotion & Work/Life Balance.* Chicago: ABA Book Publishing, 2010.
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- . *Managing Your Legal Career: Best Practices for Creating the Career You Want.* Chicago: ABA Book Publishing, 2011.
- . *The Lawyer's Guide to Finding Success in Any Job Market.* New York: Kaplan Publishing, 2009.
- . *Practicing Law in Small-Town America.* Chicago: ABA Book Publishing, 2012.
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- Horn, Carl, III.** *LawyerLife: Finding a Life and a Higher Calling in the Practice of Law.* Chicago: American Bar Association, 2003.
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Jurisprudence and Legal Issues

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Financing Law School

Scholarships, Fellowships and Loans. 33rd ed. Farmington Hills, MI: Gale Cengage Learning, 2016.

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.

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- . *Financial Aid for Persons with Disabilities and Their Families, 2012–2014.*
- . *Financial Aid for Veterans, Military Personnel, and Their Families, 2012–2014.*
- . *How to Pay for Your Law Degree, 2015–2017.*

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