

JURI 4072 Legal Research

Fall 2019

Section Y-2 Simmons & Wolfson

INTRODUCTION & RESEARCH PLAN – Week 1

Friday, August 23, 2019

Pre-Class Homework Assignment – Practice Exercise 1

- Practice Exercise: Distributed Aug. 16, 2019 at 9:00am; Due Aug. 22, 2019 at 11:59pm on eLC #1 - Research Plan

Learning Objectives

- Describe the structure and hierarchy of authority in the American legal system
- Draft an efficient, well-organized, and cost-effective research plan
- Describe the purpose, structure, and major sections of *The Bluebook*

Reading Assignment

- Steenken & Brooks, Sources of American Law, Chapter 1, *The United States Legal System*, available at no cost to you, in the eLangdell Bookstore:
<https://www.cali.org/books/sources-american-law-introduction-legal-research>
- Caroline Osborne, The Legal Research Plan and the Research Log: An Examination of the Role of the Research Plan and Research Log in the Research Process, 35 Legal Reference Services Quarterly 179-194, available in eLC and at:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/0270319X.2016.1227205>
- Steenken & Brooks, Sources of American Law, Chapter 7, *The Research Process*
- Alan L. Dworsky, User's Guide to The Bluebook, Sections 1-3, pp. 1-6.
- **[optional]** Lisa Quast, *Why Grit is More Important than IQ When You're Trying to Become Successful*, Forbes (March 6, 2017, 4:00 AM),
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/lisaquast/2017/03/06/why-grit-is-more-important-than-iq-when-youre-trying-to-become-successful/#2d0f2b377e45>