

Perspectives

Teaching Legal Research and Writing

Author's Guide

I. About *Perspectives*

Perspectives is a journal for everyone interested in teaching legal research and legal writing, including

- Law librarians and law professors, including adjuncts
- Attorneys who help associates or interns develop as researchers and writers
- Writing specialists at law schools, law firms, courts, and other legal institutions

In two electronic publications per year (fall and spring), *Perspectives* articles explore a broad array of teaching theories, techniques, and tools. Articles are both short – typically between 1,500 and 7,000 words – and lightly footnoted. They are highly readable and typically focus on curricular design, goals, teaching methods, and assessments – for example how to

- Comment rigorously and encouragingly on student writing
- Efficiently research
- Collaborate in teaching
- Design, create, and manage online teaching modules
- Teach using insights from other disciplines
- Use technology to enhance learning
- Engage today's law students, interns, and associates

Members of the *Perspectives* editorial board are experts in teaching research and writing in law schools, libraries, and law firms.

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Editorial board members welcome inquiries and opportunities to advise prospective authors. They have discretion to edit articles, including by shortening them to conform to available space.

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II. Submitting Articles to *Perspectives*

A. How, to Whom, and When to Submit

Submit manuscripts by email as an attachment to

Brooke J. Bowman, Managing Editor, Stetson University College of Law

Email: bowman@law.stetson.edu

Alternatively, particularly if your article would fit well in a regular column, you may submit an article to a column editor. [The editors' names are listed in each issue of *Perspectives*](#). Deadlines are generally in July for the fall issue and January for the spring issue.

B. Manuscript Form and Length

1. **Author Information.** Provide only your name, professional title, and institutional affiliation. Place this information immediately after the article's title, not in a footnote.
2. **Typeface and Margins.** Type in standard-face, **double**-spaced text with **1.5-inch** margins.
3. **Length.** Articles should run between 1,500 and 7,000 words. Longer articles may be considered but also may be shortened to fit available space.
4. **Footnotes.** Footnote lightly. Use footnotes, not endnotes. Identify notes in the text by superscript numbers.
5. **Citation Form.** Conform citations to practitioner format in the current edition of *The Bluebook* or the *ALWD Guide to Legal Citation*. In *The Bluebook*, follow the "Bluepages"; in the *ALWD Guide*, follow main rules, not rules for academic footnotes. In other words, use Large and Small Capitals where appropriate. Use italicizing, not underlining.
6. **Ellipses.** Treat an ellipsis as a single word, constructed of three periods preceded and followed by a space – for example: "The idea was ... hers."
7. **Commas.** Use "serial commas." That is, in a series of three or more elements, separate each element by a comma – for example: "The names were Ax, Boxx, and Crux." In addition, do not use a comma to separate Jr. or Sr. from the name – for example: John Kennedy Jr.
8. **Word Preferences.**
 - a. Use **appendixes** or **indexes**, not appendices or indices.
 - b. Use **citation**, not cite, and **citing**, not "Bluebooking."
 - c. Generally, do not hyphenate **legal writing** or **legal research**.

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