Interactive CALI Legal Research Lessons: Alternatives to Reading About Research

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http://www.cali.org

CALI is a U.S. 501(c)(3) non-profit consortium of law schools that researches and develops computer-mediated legal instruction and supports institutions and individuals using technology and distance learning in legal education. CALI was incorporated in 1982 and welcomes membership from law schools, paralegal programs, law firms and individuals wishing to learn more about the law.
Legal Research Community Authoring Project

• Scope of the Project:
  To create a comprehensive set of web-based topics

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  Deb Quentel
dquentel@cali.org
Legal Writing Subject Outline with CALI Lessons

(click lesson title for description)

1. Cases
   - Where Does Law Come From?
   1.1. Anatomy of a case
       - Anatomy of a Case
   1.2. Citation Format
       1.2.1. ALWD
           - ALWD Citation Form
       1.2.2. Citation Form For Briefs and Legal Memoranda
           - Citation Form for Briefs and Legal Memoranda
       1.2.3. Vendor Neutral Citation Formats
   1.3. Finding Cases
       1.3.1. How to Find Case Law Using Digests
           - How to Find Case Law Using the Digests
           1.3.1.1. Overview of Reporters
           1.3.1.2. Anatomy of Case – parts of a case
           1.3.1.3. Function of the Digest
           1.3.1.4. West Key Number System
           1.3.1.5. How to Find Case Law Using the Digests
           1.3.1.6. Finding the Most Recent Case Law
           1.3.1.7. Evolution of Digest System
       1.3.2. Using Citators to find cases
   1.4. Updating and Validating
       - Updating/Validating Case Law Using Citators
How to Find Case Law Using the Digests

This exercise will provide the student with a detailed introduction to using the digests to find case law. Example pages from the West reporters and digests are provided and hypothetical research issues are demonstrated to show how these books are used.

Note: A brief excerpt from this lesson is available as the separate CALI Lesson "Anatomy of a Case".

NOTE TO LAW TEACHERS: Click here for a complete listing of the lesson, including all questions and answers on a single web page.
**Statutes: Question 1**

Which one of the choices is the proper citation format for the official Georgia code?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Choices</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>O.C.G.A. § 2-9-39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Look it up in <em>The Bluebook</em>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Response**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Choices</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>You've got it! You know how to correctly cite O.C.G.A. For O.C.G.A., you must follow the format as stated by the courts and not the format as stated in <em>The Bluebook</em>. After feedback jump to &quot;Statutes 5 of 14&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>No, you must follow the format as stated by the courts and not the format as stated in <em>The Bluebook</em>. The correct citation would be O.C.G.A. § 2-9-39. After feedback jump to &quot;Statutes 5 of 14&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>This is an instance that you should not use <em>The Bluebook</em>. The citation format required by the courts differs from the citation format in <em>The Bluebook</em>. The correct citation would be O.C.G.A. § 2-9-39. After feedback jump to &quot;Statutes 5 of 14&quot;.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Legal Research Lessons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ALWD Citation Form</th>
<th>Legal Research 101: The Tools of the Trade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Law Reports</td>
<td>Legal Research Methodology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anatomy of a Case</td>
<td>Maryland Legal Research: Primary Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona Legal Research - Primary Sources</td>
<td>Mastering Looseleaf Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attorney General Materials</td>
<td>Non Legal Resource: Online News Sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citation Form for Briefs and Legal Memoranda</td>
<td>Pennsylvania Primary Legal Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Codification</td>
<td>Periodicals Indexes and Library Catalogs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company Research</td>
<td>Plagiarism - Keeping Out of Trouble</td>
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<tr>
<td>Copyright and Trademark Legal Research</td>
<td>Punctuation and Grammar Basics for Law Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of Legal Research</td>
<td>Punctuation and Grammar: Advanced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customary International Law</td>
<td>Researching Canadian Law: Case Approach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drafting Contracts Using 'Shall', 'May' and 'Must'</td>
<td>Researching Federal Administrative Regulations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drafting with 'And' and 'Or'</td>
<td>Researching Federal Executive Orders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluating Web Sites</td>
<td>Researching Federal Legislative History</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Legislative History Research - Compiled Legislative History</td>
<td>Researching Legal Ethics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finding Statutes</td>
<td>Researching U.S. Immigration Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forms of Federal Statutory Publication</td>
<td>Researching Uniform and Model Laws</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Legal Research - Primary Source Material</td>
<td>Rulemaking: Federal Register and CFR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hold 'em, Fold 'em, Walk Away or Run: When to Stop the Search</td>
<td>Stating Facts: Objective and Persuasive Approaches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to Brief a Case</td>
<td>U.S. Treaty Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>How to Find Case Law Using the Digests</td>
<td>Updating Federal and State Statutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Agency Materials</td>
<td>Updating/Validating Case Law Using Citators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet Legal Resources - Free Resources</td>
<td>Using IRAC to Develop an Objective Memorandum of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction and Sources of Authority for Administrative Law</td>
<td>Using the Restatements of the Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Foreign Legal Research</td>
<td>Where Does Law Come From?</td>
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Company Research
Copyright and Trademark Legal Research
Cost of Legal Research
Customary International Law
Decision Point: State or Federal?
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Rulemaking: Federal Register and CFR
Stating Facts: Objective and Persuasive Approaches
U.S. Treaty Research
Updating Federal and State Statutes
Updating/Validating Case Law Using Citators
Using IRAC to Develop an Objective Memorandum of Law
Using the Restatements of the Law
Where Does Law Come From?
Student Reactions to Using CALI Lessons at GSU

• 1st Year Legal Research course

• We asked students how they felt about using CALI lessons as a learning tool for the course.
Are CALI Lessons Preferred Over Traditional Learning Tools?

- Deeper Understanding of Material? 94%
- Rather Do CALI Lesson Than Read? 83%
- Are CALI Lessons Interesting or Boring? 51%
- CALI Lessons for other Classes? 78%
Results of CALI’s Survey

Lesson helpful

Faculty-Student

Student-Student
CALI Student Comments

• “CALI lessons …have helped me go from a 17% in class ranking to top 9%. It is the method that CALI utilizes that really hammers home the things to be learned.”

• “CALI is a valuable additional resource to reinforce what I have learned in the classroom. I am exposed to different styles and approaches to the material.”

• “I do not recommend them to my classmates merely because of the competition. I think the lessons work and since it seems few of my classmates are aware of them, it may give me a competitive edge.”
“Teaching makes visible the invisible processes of thinking.”

Using CALI Lessons – Advantages

• Students can spend as much time as they need exploring CALI Lessons; instructors often have limited amount of time to spend with each student
Using CALI Lessons – Advantages

- CALI Lessons give students the feedback they crave
Using CALI Lessons – Advantages

• CALI Lessons provide a “second pass” through the material
Using CALI Lessons – Advantages

• CALI Lessons provide a different viewpoint, a different approach, and a “neutral” party to the material
Authoring CALI Lessons – Advantages

• Authors will grow in their knowledge of the subject area
Authoring CALI Lessons – Advantages

• Allows you to look at the material in a new way
Authoring CALI Lessons – Advantages

• Authors will explore new techniques that could improve their teaching
Authoring CALI Lessons
Compensation
Authoring CALI Lessons – Advantages

• Authoring a CALI Lesson keeps the material fresh and interesting for the author/instructor
Authoring CALI Lessons – Advantages

• Explore a topic in depth and re-purpose the material for a law review article or presentation.
Authoring CALI Lessons – Advantages

• Authors are part of an educational community helping law students to “conquer” new concepts and “explore” new ways of thinking.
Authoring CALI Lessons – Advantages

• Authoring CALI Lessons is FUN!!
Authoring CALI Lessons - Disadvantages

- Authoring can be time consuming
Authoring CALI Lessons – Disadvantages

- Audience is limited to faculty and students at CALI member law schools
Authoring CALI Lessons
Disadvantages

• Possibly not viewed as a traditional publication necessary for promotion.
Future Authoring Opportunities

• Legal Research Lessons
• Legal Writing Lessons
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Please contact us for additional information!