BLOGS

Hone Your Legal Research and Writing Skills: Enroll Now in our Online Certificate Course by Lawctopus Law School [May 1 – June 30]: Register by May 1!

Adtiya Aryan · 28 Apr 2024

About the Lawctopus Law School

Lawctopus Law School has taught over **14,000+ learners** and our online certificate courses have an average rating of **92/100.**

Our LIVE courses come with weekly live lectures, rigorously prepared reading modules, recorded lectures, practical assignments, personal feedback, and a 100%, no questions asked money back guarantee!

Each batch has a Learning Manager who ensures that all learners have a quality learning experience in the course.

How the course will help you:

Legal research and writing are **core skills** that all types of legal professionals require. You cannot do away with these skills.

Corporate lawyers, litigators, academicians, judges…everyone just has to be a quality researcher and writer!

The knowledge and skills you learn from the course will help you:

- Develop excellent research and writing skills. Know how to start, how to choose a topic
- Write excellent, publishable research papers that improve your ‘self’ and your ‘CV’
- Write prize-winning moot court memorials, quality research papers
- Draft high-quality legal opinions as a lawyer

- Go about footnoting, endnoting, and referencing like a pro
- Learn about editing your piece and presenting it in conferences, seminars
- Learn the fundamental practical aspects of tools like SCCOnline, Manupatra

Register for the course by clicking here.

Structure of the Course

Module 1: Introduction to Legal Research

Introduces you to the idea of research generally. It asks: how should research be done? Everyone has a different answer to this seemingly simple question. This module tells you some common answers and asks you to pick the one you like.

Module 2: Legal Research Design and The Research Problem

Module 2 is about research design. It tells you the steps of a research process and discusses them briefly – choosing the topic and title, understanding and explaining the framework of your research, coming up with a research problem, making a research question & hypothesis, deciding the research methodology & method, and writing & presenting the research. Exactly how you take these steps depends, of course, on the philosophy (‘answer’) you pick in Module I.

Assignment: 1

Choose a research topic, research questions, and get personal feedback from our subject matter experts.

Module 3: Research Methods and Methodology

Module 3 tells you more about the research methodology & method. What is “methodology”? What is “method”? Although you would have already read these terms in Module II, Module III gives you more detail. It also explains how the various research methodologies can be classified under the headings qualitative, quantitative, and mixed. Finally, it tells you which methodologies and methods are best suited to doctrinal/analytical and empirical research.

Module 4: Doctrinal Legal Research Methods

Module 4 dives straight into doctrinal/analytical research methods. How do you research a given legal issue? How do you find the right legislation or case law? This module explains how to best

use available resources to find the authority you need.

Module 5: Empirical Legal Research Methods

Module 5 is the empirical counterpart of Module IV. It discusses the various kinds of research methods under qualitative as well as quantitative methodologies.

Assignment: 2

Submit a rough draft, with the structure of your paper, literature review spelt out, and footnotes keyed in. Get personal feedback again from our subject matter experts.

Module 6: Legal Writing

Module 6 teaches you the art of legal writing. The module explains the art of clear writing with a structured, nuanced approach.

Module 7: Presenting and Publishing Legal Research

Module 7 explains how to present legal research verbally. Presenting in conferences and seminars is a key activity that helps you develop your research further, disseminate your insights, and build career capital. This module will help you with this.

Module 8: Ethics of Legal Research

Module 8 deals with the ethics of legal research. What are the practices you must do during research, and which ones must you avoid? This module explains various scenarios in which ethics become important.

Assignment: 3

Submission of the final paper. **Get personal feedback for the 3rd time** by our faculty!

Assignment: 4

Presentation of your paper before a panel (for best-performing students)

Assignments Module

The course has a full-fledged ‘Assignments Module’ which addresses the fundamental, practical questions of doing legal research and writing like: How to find a precise research topic? How to go about crafting research questions? How do I find literature gaps? *“Everything I read seems alright. I don’t know how to produce something novel”.* What all should I footnote? How do I do

that? How do I get published in top law journals and win essay competitions?

Register for the Legal Research and Writing Course by clicking here.

Course Developers

The course has been prepared by Abhayraj Naik, Shrutanjaya Bhardwaj, Anupama Sharma, and Vershika Sharma. The delivery of the course will be done by the e-learning and subject-matter experts at Lawctopus.

Tanuj Kalia, our CEO, and Jatin Garg (an expert in legal instructional design) have worked closely on the overall coordination and planning of the course.

The course has been done by over 5000 learners with an average rating of 92/100.

Trust us, it's a gem we have on offer!

Who is this course for?

- Undergraduate and postgraduate students of law.
- Faculty members in the fields of law, social sciences, and business wishing to revisit the fundamental of legal research and writing.
- Young lawyers (both litigators and those working in law firms who are interested in these topics.
- Students of other streams interested in gaining legal research and writing skills

Register for the course by clicking here.

Learner's Feedback



Jatin Chandra
University Of Lucknow

The course is very very helpful for beginners like me who have never done research before. It gave me an introduction to research and its practical application in a very simple and joyful manner. I came to know that we should achieve our objectives in a time-bound manner for proper discipline and in-time submission. I have achieved the purpose for which I enrolled myself in this course.



Anip Ghose
NEF Law College

The overall experience has been good. The structure of the course is very well organized which helps in understanding the crux of the matter. The Recorded lectures provide an extra benefit when live classes couldn't be attended. The reading materials are so very well written and in such simple language that it's easy to understand the topic and also get better insight into the topic.



Shivangi V.
Teri School Of Advanced Studies

The overall experience has been very enriching. The course has contributed to improvement in my legal research and writing skills.

Course Details

Duration: 8 weeks.

Fees: 6900 INR (Including GST)

Mode of learning:

- Completely online and self-paced. (Except for the weekly live sessions. The recordings of the live sessions is also available)
- Detailed reading modules and resources
- Recorded video lectures
- Weekly live lectures which build on the reading modules, clear your doubts, explain assignments, etc.
- Online forum for doubt clarification
- Regular communication over Whatsapp and Email so that you do not miss any live class or assignment deadline. We deeply ‘care’ for your learning.
- Assignment: submission of a short research paper (this assignment is divided into 3 mini-assignments)
- Personal 3-level feedback on your assignments.
- Optional reflective exercises
- Recorded webinars on careers in legal research, CV-building, earning through freelancing, etc.
- Access to alumni group which will keep you updated about future career opportunities

We go out of our way to support our students!

- Live orientation session which tells you about our platform and how to make full use of the course.
- A broadcast-only Whatsapp group to check updates easily and fast.
- Access to recorded version of the live lectures in case you miss attending them live!

Add-on benefits:

- Get a certificate issued by Lawctopus Law School after the successful completion of the course. (Don’t worry, if you put in a sincere effort in this course, you’ll get a certificate. We are liberal in our markings and give you a second chance. We do want sincere efforts from our learners).
- Free career counselling, CV, and career guidance webinars for everyone.
- A chance to get published on Academike, Lawctopus’ Law Journal (ISSN: 2349-9796).

- An opportunity to mentor future batches for senior students, academicians, and practitioners (this is a paid, part-time, work-from-home position at Lawctopus)

Register for the course by clicking here.

Some achievements of the students of Lawctopus' Legal Research and Writing Course till now:

1. Our students have got their articles published on the following platforms:
    1. NUALS Law Journal
    2. LiveLaw
    3. LawAndOtherThings
    4. Law School Policy Review
2. Some of the achievements of our students/projects our students are working on:
    1. Presenting their papers in an international seminar on Liberty
    2. Securing a Research Assistantship with a Professor from the Oxford University
    3. Working on a legal history project in the Bombay High Court.
    4. Securing a research internship with a leading education provider
    5. Winning top-notch legal essay writing competitions
    6. Securing internships and freelance gigs based on their writing samples
3. Thanks to the excellent research, writing, and editing skills, many of our students submit better CVs and writing samples which has lead to a dozen of internship offers.
4. Many of our students have won the country's best legal essay writing competitions after this course!

These are just indicative list of achievements. While these achievements are due to the students' own initiative and hard work, they have told us that the course helped them towards these, and we couldn't be happier!

This course teaches you Legal Research and Writing from A to Z!

Whether you are a 1st-year law student from a lesser-ranked law college, whether you are an experienced faculty member who already has a Ph.D. or you may even be a practicing lawyer wishing to know what the exact process behind quality legal research and writing can look like, you'll find this course of great utility and spark!

Register for the course by clicking here.

FAQs:

1. Do we have a live class every day?

No. You'll have 7-8 live lectures each lasting approximately 90 minutes. The schedule of the live sessions is released when the course starts. Most of our live sessions happen on weekends or on late evenings so that all learners (students or working professionals) can attend them without skipping their regular classes or office.

2. How many hours should I spend every day to complete the course?

We suggest that you spend approximately **3-5 hours/week** doing the course. When you spend these 3-5 hours is up to you. You may spend around 40 minutes each day or do it over the weekend.

3. I have never done any research or writing. Can I do this course?

Yes, this course is designed to help an absolute newbie to learn the fundamentals and nuances of legal research and writing. Even senior academicians find the course of immense use. If you are a professional looking to improve their research and writing skills, this course will help you too.

4. The course duration is 2 months long. Can I access the course after the 2 months are over?

Yes, you can access the course for a *total of 4 months* [2 months to complete the course + 2 months to review the course]. Please note that the course is complete by the end of the 2nd month. We have strict deadlines for submission of the 4 mini-assignments which have to be followed. However, if you want to revisit and revise the material in the course, you can do that for 2 months after the completion of the course.

5. What if I miss a live class?

We encourage you to attend the live classes after thorough preparations. Just like the real **charm of a live match/performance** is watching it live, the real value of a live class is in attending it live! A lot of new, practical things are covered; and of course, your questions are addressed too. However, if you miss the live class, you can watch the recorded version of the live class which is uploaded for the specific batch only.

6. How will this course help me in my career?

Good research and writing skills are **absolutely crucial** (no questions asked) for any knowledge professional. Every legal professional, whether a corporate lawyer or a litigator, a judge or an academician, requires good legal research and writing skills. Through this course, you'll learn these core skills. **Consider this:** even your CV and cover letters are evaluated by recruiters as short writing samples. Is it written well, formatted well? Interestingly, our students have told us that after this course their internship applications which were rejected earlier were not getting accepted! Good research, writing, and presentation skills are transferable to multiple domains. The course will also help you do well in **moots, publications, and conferences and seminars.**

7. What are the assignments in the course?

There is only one compulsory assignment: submission of a 1500-2500 word short research essay. The assignment is divided into 3 mini-assignments. Submission of: 1. A research topic and questions 2. Submission of a rough draft with references and footnotes 3. Final research paper Each mini-assignment is followed by feedback from the faculty. Each student is given feedback. We pride ourselves on being able to give personalized, 3-level feedback.

8. Will the course help me do an 'X' or a 'Y' draft?

The intention of the course is to teach you legal research and writing skills. Any type of legal drafting, civil or criminal or corporate, requires good research and writing skills. The focus of this course is not on particular drafts, but on legal research and writing as the broader skill-set. Your drafting will surely improve after doing this course.

9. Can I do this course without having access to Manupatra, SCCOnline, library?

Yes. There are many free, open sources available online that can help you with your research. SSRN, Google Scholar, ResearchGate, IndianKanoon, Government websites, and many free and open law journals (both from India and abroad), are an excellent repositories of knowledge, information, and insights. We also provide a list of such sources.

Register for the course by clicking here.

Need help to decide? Feel free to reach out to us on these channels.

Phone calls/WhatsApp Number: **935 968 4056** (Ishani Patankar, Counsellor, Lawctopus Law School)

Email: **courses@lawctopus.com**