

Starting (& Surviving) Law School

There are many resources available in the SIU Law Library that you can use to help get a good start to and survive your law school experience, including the materials listed below. A brief description and assessment is included for each item together with its call number so you can find it easily in the Law Library. We have also included the ISBN number for each for those that want to purchase their own copy but please note that these are not required texts and copies are available in the Law Library.

Key to Assessment:

- F good for first year students
- F* very first-year focused
- C helpful to continuing students
- S focuses on building study skill, exam tips, etc.
- W focuses on needs of female students
- N novel/fiction
- R recommended by SIU academic success program

Title/Year	Summary/Assessment	Author	Call Number	ISBN
<i>1000 Days to the Bar, but the Practice of Law Begins Now</i> (2003)	Discusses how to translate what a student learns in the classroom into usable knowledge for exams, the bar, and the practice of law. Includes descriptions on the various types of commercial study aids and provides some assistance in skill set building. / F, C, S, R	Dennis J. Tonsing	KF272 .T66 2003	9780837737263
<i>1L of a Ride: A Well-Traveled Professor's Roadmap to Success In the First Year of Law School</i> (2009)	Addresses aspects of academic and emotional success during 1L year. Lays out time management plans and study skill techniques. Includes both a professor and student perspective, with comments from real law students as they progressed through their first year from beginning to end.	Andrew McClurg	KF287 .M38 2009	9780314194831

	/F*, C, S, R			
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<i>Asked & Answered: Your Guide to Law School Success</i> (2008)	Very simple guide to the simple questions admitted and first year students might have. Not much in depth treatment of issues, but easy to use for quick guidance. / F*	Donna Greerson	KF283.G47 2008	9780314190888
<i>Bridging the Gap Between College and Law School: Strategies for Success</i> (2001)	Guidance for transitioning from the learning format of undergrad into the rigorous and varied format of law school. Includes tips for skill building and practice problems for skill application. / F*, S, R	Ruta K. Stropus & Charlotte D. Taylor	KF283 .S77 2001	9780890899458
<i>A Career in the Law: A Guide for Women Law Students</i> (1992)	Based on a NALP report, this booklet outlines obstacles to women's success in the study and practice of law. The book offers important strategies for overcoming those obstacles. / F, C, W	NALP	KF299.W6 C37	9780897077637
<i>The Complete Law School Companion</i> (1992)	This book offers a plan for implementing its tools for success which are good, but fairly ambitious. / F*, C, S	Jeff Deaver	KF283 .D4 1992	9780471554912
<i>Demystifying the First Year of Law School: A Guide to the 1L Experience</i> (2010)	Explains the question and answer format of law school and offers guidance on how to read, understand, and analyze legal opinions, as well as how to discuss them in a law classroom format. / F*	Albert J. Moore & David A. Binder	KF283 .M66 2010	9780735584495
<i>The Eight Secrets of Top Exam Performance in Law School</i> (1997)	Simple skill building rules. Not a bad book, but there are many others that do the same thing, only better and with more “extras”. / F, C, S	Charles H. Whitebread	KF283 .W48 1995	978-0159003237

<i>Full Disclosure: Do You Really Want To Be a lawyer?</i> (2001)	This book is not so much a guide on how to deal with law school, rather a guide for what to expect from both law school and the legal profession. A candid look at the highs/lows of both. / F, C	Bell, Susan (editor)	KF300 .F85	9780942639728
<i>How to Succeed in Law School</i> (2001)	Great guide to coping with the fast-paced law school environment. Filled with both study skills and personal advice. / F, C, S, R	Gary Munneke	KF283 .M86 2001	9780764113871
<i>Introduction to the Study and Practice of Law In a Nutshell</i> (2008)	The nutshell series is known for its simple and practical approach. Very matter-of-fact guide to building and using a set of study skills and how they will help in the practice of law. / S	Kenney F. Hegland	KF273 .H4 2008	9780314247155
<i>Law School Confidential: A Complete Guide to the Law School Experience: By Students, for Students</i> (2004)	Nice chronological account of the law school experience. Written by law students and filled with practical assessments and advice on everything from where to live to how to study. / F*, C, S	Robert H. Miller	KF283 .M55 2004	9780312318819
<i>Law School Labyrinth: A Guide to Making the Most of Your Legal Education</i> (2009)	Guidance for first year students, as well as advice on picking classes, finding clerkships and summer jobs, and a “how to” for tacking law school issues. Easy read. / F, C, S	Steven R. Sedberry	KF283 .S43 2009	9781427799586

<i>Law School Revealed: Secrets, Opportunities, and Success!</i> (2009)	Compiling advice from students, deans, professors, and attorneys, this guide offers rather well-rounded, clearly organized tips ranging from class preparation to choosing career paths. Very easy to read. / F*, C, S	Ursula Furi-Perry	KF283 .F87 2009	9781593576165
<i>Law School Success In a Nutshell: A Guide to Studying Law and Taking Law School Exams</i> (2008)	The nutshell series is known for its simple and practical approach. Very matter-of-fact guide to building and using a set of study skills, specifically tailored to exam taking. / F, C, S	Ann M. Burkhart	KF283 .B87 2008	9780735563568
<i>Law School Survival</i> (1998)	Compilation of advice from over fifty law students across the country. Very hodge-podge, but some good, insightful nuggets of information. / F*, C, S	Greg & Shannon Gottesman	KF283 .G68 1998	9780312243098
<i>The Law School Trip: The Insider's Guide to Law School</i> (2001)	Funny, relevant book written by a law professor. Tells the tale of what to expect from the whole law school experience with wisdom, wit, and insight. Not for garnering study skills, but a great read to aid with keeping one's sanity. / F, C	Andrew J. McClurg	PN6231.L4 M32 2001	9781552126462
<i>Maximizing the Law School Experience: A Collection of Essays</i> (1983)	Narrative essays on a variety of first year topics. A bit outdated, but still a decent read on generally relatable issues. / F, C, N	Michael Swygert & Robery Batey	KF273.M3 1983	
<i>One L: The Turbulent True Story of a First Year at Harvard Law School</i> (1997)	A narrative of the author's first year as a student at Harvard Law. Very true representation of the stress, pressure, and experiences of a first year student. / F, C, N	Turow, Scott	KF373.T88 A33	9780446673785

<i>The Paper Chase</i> (2003)	Fictionalized account of author's first year law school experience. While an interesting read with good insight into the traditional law school format, it is not representative of the modern, more humanistic, law school approach one experiences at SIU. / F, C, N	Osborn, John Jay	PS3565.S38 P37	978-0878755394
<i>Reading Like a Lawyer</i> (2005)	Great book on how to get everything and more from cases, without spending all day reading. Really good for strengthening one's ability to read law materials./ F, C, R, S	Ruth Ann McKinney	KF283 .M398 2005	9781594600326
<i>Slaying the Law School Dragon: How to Survive--and Thrive--In First Year Law School</i> (1991)	Both a book on how to build the academic skill set needed to survive law school, but also filled with a bit of wit and humor with regard to tackling the emotional and physical demands of the first year. / F*, S	George Roth	KF283.R68 1991	9780471542988
<i>Strategies & Tactics for the First Year Law Student: Maximize Your Grades</i> (1997)	Lays out study plans and skill-building methods, but relies heavily on the use of Emmanuel outlines and Law-in-a-Flash study aids. / F, S	Kimm Alayne Walton and Lazar Emanuel	KF283 .W35 1997	9781565425774
<i>Succeeding in Law School</i> (2006)	/ F, C, R, S	Herbert N. Ramy	KF283 .R36 2006	9781594601897
<i>Surviving the First Year of Law School</i>	This book provides advice on buying study aids, briefing cases, answering when called upon in class, taking notes in class, participating in moot court, and preparing for and taking exams in a very readable format. F*, S	Ralph Canada, Charles Cheatham, et. al.	KF283 .C36	9780930204037

<i>A Woman's Guide to Law School</i> (1999)	Great resource for female students before, during, and after their legal education. Sometimes a bit aggressive in its opinions, but overall a great insight into what a female student should be looking at when choosing a school a course load, and a career path. / F, C, W	Linda Hirshman	KF283 .H57 1999	9780140264371
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