

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Lawyering I

Current as of 7-22-2026

Q: Who is my Lawyering I professor, and what Lawyering I section am I in?

A: The College of Law works to ensure that all Lawyering I sections remain relatively small and similar in size to each other. Therefore, Law Records will assign incoming 1L students to Lawyering I sections toward the end of the summer, as the admissions cycle nears completion. You should receive your Lawyering I section assignment and professor's name in August, before the start of Orientation.

Q: What are the required textbooks for Lawyering I in Fall 2026?

A: The required textbooks and editions appear below:

- *A Lawyer Writes: A Practical Guide to Legal Analysis* (4th ed. 2024). ISBN (paperback): 9781531020699. ISBN (eBook): 9781531020705.
- *Louisiana Legal Research* (5th ed. 2026). ISBN (paperback): 978-1-5310-3169-5. ISBN (eBook): 978-1-5310-3170-1.
- *Texas Law Review Manual on Usage & Style* (16th ed. 2024). ISBN 1-878674-59-5.
- *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation* (22d ed. 2025). ISBN: 979-8-218-57457-4.

Q: What if I can't acquire my Lawyering I textbooks before the first day of class?

A: All Lawyering readings for the first week of classes will be available in PDF form and posted on Canvas by the end of Orientation week. Some textbooks might also become available as online course reserves through the Loyola Law Library that week. If we learn that low stock or shipment delays are preventing students from acquiring textbooks after the first week of class, we will provide options for students to access other reading assignments digitally, to the extent permitted by copyright.

Q: May I use the old editions of the Lawyering I textbooks?

A: Perhaps, but you do so at your own risk. Your professor is not going to check your textbooks to confirm that you have purchased the current edition. However, all reading assignments in the Schedule of Assignments will be keyed to the current editions, and old editions likely will have missing or outdated content. Additionally, the faculty will generate the questions and answers to Citation Exercise questions using the twenty-second edition of *The Bluebook*, which came out in June 2025.

We are using the same edition of *A Lawyer Writes*, the *Texas Law Review Manual*, and *The Bluebook* that we used in Fall 2025, so before purchasing old editions of those textbooks, you might try finding a used copy from the Loyola Bookstore or an upper-class student.

CAUTION: Be very wary of purchasing *The Bluebook* from unofficial online sellers. In recent years, third-party vendors (including sellers on sites like Amazon.com) have begun selling unauthorized copies of *The Bluebook* created by scanning the real *Bluebook* and printing new

copies. However, during this process, errors in optical character recognition (OCR) result in errors in the unauthorized copies. You do not want these errors to affect the accuracy of your legal citations.

Q: May I use digital versions of the textbooks instead?

A: Yes, if you'd like.

- You may purchase digital versions of *A Lawyer Writes* and *Louisiana Legal Research* through the Loyola University Bookstore.
- You can access a free digital version of *A Lawyer Writes* via the LexisNexis Digital Library (LNDL), which is available through the Law Library's website: <https://lexisdl.com/library/LOYNO> . The newest edition of *Louisiana Legal Research* will likely be added to the LNDL soon. **Please note that your login credentials might not allow you to access the LexisNexis Digital Library until the semester begins in mid-August; thank you in advance for your patience with this process.**
- You may purchase a one-, two-, or three-year subscription to the online version of *The Bluebook* at <https://www.legalbluebook.com/> . [Note: *The Bluebook* is a required text for both Lawyering I and Lawyering II.]
- You may purchase the digital version of the *Texas Law Review Manual on Usage & Style* as an Online eBook directly from the publisher at <https://texaslawjournals.directfrompublisher.com/catalog/book/manual-usage-style-mous>

Q: Why can't I purchase the *Texas Law Review Manual* from the Loyola Bookstore? What should I do instead?

A: For many years, Loyola's Lawyering Program has used the *Texas Law Review Manual* because it is user friendly and more affordable than many other legal writing style manuals. The current edition is the sixteenth edition, which came out in 2024. Copies of the sixteenth edition are not currently available through the Bookstore. However, you may buy the 16th edition as either a hard-copy text or as an Online eBook directly from the publisher at <http://texaslawjournals.directfrompublisher.com/catalog/book/manual-usage-style-mous> . Both the hard-copy text and the Online eBook cost \$17 when you order directly from the publisher.

Q: When will I be able to see the Canvas course for Lawyering I?

A: Each professor will publish the Canvas course for their sections partway through Orientation, so you will be able to access your section's course no later than the end of Orientation week.

Q: May I see the Lawyering I assignment schedule in advance so that I can work ahead?

A: Professors will publish the assignment schedule during Orientation so that all students receive the assignments at roughly the same time. The best things that you can do for yourself right now are (1) complete the Orientation assignments and (2) sharpen your basic grammar skills by completing optional exercises in Core Grammar for Lawyers. (Refer to the next page for more information about Core Grammar for Lawyers.) If you face exceptional circumstances and need certain additional information about the first few weeks of the semester, please contact your Lawyering I professor or Professor Bishop (ebishop@loyno.edu) via email.

Optional-But-Encouraged Practice for Summer 2026:

Core Grammar for Lawyers

Lawyers must explain complex ideas concisely and in a manner that their readers perceive as clear and easy to read. Readers in the United States legal system tend to perceive writing as clear when it follows the rules and conventions of Standard Edited American English. Therefore, mastering the grammar rules and style conventions of this written form of English is one important step in effective legal writing.

The Lawyering courses do not teach fundamental grammar concepts in depth; instead, the Lawyering courses presume that entering students have achieved proficiency in basic writing mechanics and focus more on teaching substantive accuracy, structure, and legal citation. As a result, we strongly encourage you to practice and master fundamental grammar concepts **before** your 1L year begins.

One tool that you might consider using for your practice is Core Grammar for Lawyers (CGL). CGL is a self-directed, online learning tool.

- CGL's comprehensive Pre-Test establishes measures your starting mastery of the grammar and style conventions that characterize legal writing. Thus, on the Pre-Test, you should expect to see (1) questions that present familiar grammar concepts, (2) questions that present new grammar concepts, and (3) questions that require you to apply familiar grammar concepts in a new context.
- After you complete the Pre-Test and move to the Lessons, the Lessons (and their accompanying Exercises) will help you learn the new concepts and practice the ones that require extra review. You can then reevaluate your skills when you take the Post-Test.
- Each Pre-Test and Post-Test contains 96 questions and takes between 45 and 90 minutes to complete, depending on how fast you read and how familiar you are with the concepts on the tests. Each Lesson (and accompanying Exercises) takes between 20 and 40 minutes to complete, again depending on the length of the Lesson, how fast you read, and how familiar you already were with the content before beginning the Lesson.

Use of CGL is optional and does not affect grades in the Lawyering courses, so you are welcome to select a different tool to guide your practice. But grammar and style will be a scored component of all major Lawyering assignments, so we encourage you to develop a strong foundation of writing mechanics before you begin your law school coursework.

A one-year subscription to CGL costs \$40, and the entire subscription fee goes to CGL. If you decide to purchase a subscription, you should also enter the Class Code for Loyola University New Orleans College of Law: **326-103-9722**.

1. Go to <https://coregrammarforlawyers.com/> in your browser.
2. Click **Purchase CGL** to purchase access.
3. Complete the form, and be sure to select "LA" for your state and "Loyola University - New Orleans School of Law" for your school.
4. Enter **326-103-9722** in the "Class Code" field when creating your account. (Professor Bishop is Loyola's CGL Coordinator, so her name might appear as the instructor associated with this Class Code, regardless of whether she is your Lawyering I professor for the Fall 2026 semester.)
5. After entering your payment information and verifying the purchase, you will be able to start using CGL immediately.
6. If you do not enter the Class Code during the account creation and activation process, you may enter it at any time by visiting the My Account page, entering the Class Code in the "Class Code" field, and clicking "Join Class."