



KNOWING LEGAL RESEARCH

The course is divided into a set of six modules covering the entire gamut of legal research & writing. Each module and writing exercises carries certain credits which will be awarded to the student upon his/her successful completion of the module.

Module 1 (Overview of Legal Research)

Introduction, Objectives (Contemporary Relevance, Doctrinal Ambiguities, Gaps in the existing academic or professional literature, Pathways for reforms, Deepening an under-explored perspective), Approaches (Overview, Primary Source, KPS approach), Kinds of LR (Opinion Pieces, Case Comments; Legislative Analysis, Policy Analysis, Book Review; Law Review Articles, Research-Based Reports)

Module 2 (Steps to Legal Research)

This constitutes the heart of legal writing. It consists of steps which are followed to carry out a quality research, viz. gathering & studying factual information for the research problem; identifying key terms; learning more about the area of law in which the research is proposed to be conducted; locating primary authority; Using P2P method to authenticate the research; evaluating and assessing the results in the light of research questions. Additionally, knowledge of logical fallacies and styles of writing in IRAC, FILAC format will also be covered in this module.

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Module 3 (Tools of Legal Research)

Tools play a vital role in smoothening the process of research. It comprises lessons on proficient use of various Legal Research databases (Manupatra, SCC,Online, Casemine, Indian Kanoon, etc.), Law Reports, Journals, govt. sources, web sources in carrying out quality research in a time efficient manner.

Module 4 (Elements of Legal Research)

This module will cover the skeleton of a standard research paper showing a systematic framework in which research needs to be conducted like. abstract, statement of the Problem, hypothesis testing, objectives, questions, methodology, sampling, limitations, ethical considerations, analysis, etc.

Module 5 (Citations & Referencing)

If there is one thing in the legal world which every person from the legal world must know is Citations & Referencing. Students will learn about globally accepted standards of citation like MLA, APA, Bluebook, Indian, Harvard citation. Additionally, the students will also be taught professional usage of MS Word in writing legal material.

Module 6 (Practical Exercises)

This module carries the highest weight in terms of credits for its sheer focus on legal writing. It comprises writing exercises and query resolution sessions. The student will learn to write research papers, law blogs, law reviews, journals, case comment, opinion pieces, etc

Writing Exercises

This section covers the writing component that forms the core of this course and which will help students make use of the theoretical knowledge acquired in the aforesaid modules. It is to be noted that this writing section will not be a separate activity and will be conducted simultaneously with the course modules.

- Course Paper
- Precise writing
- Article critique
- Case Summary
- Issues involved Prominent arguments Ratio Judgment Legal Research on contemporary issues
- Presentation followed by submission of Course Paper