



SUCCEEDING IN LAW SCHOOL: An Annotated Bibliography.

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June 2005

Editors of JD Jungle and JDJungle.com. The JD Jungle Law School Survival Guide. Perseus Publishing, 2003 [KF285.J3 2003]. This book has a broad scope that includes discussions on the decision to go to law school, preparing for the LSAT, finding employment, etc. This book is the least helpful of all the books reviewed regarding success in law school. The pages on how to study in law school were too few. However, one thing to note is that the authors do accent the necessity of outlining.

Fishchl, Richard Michael and Pau, Jeremy. Getting to Maybe: How to Excel on Law School Exams. Carolina Academic Press, 1999 [KF283.F57 1999]. While some of the books on this list cover things beyond simply how to be a better law school student, this book has a narrower focus. Its focus is just how to write good law school exams. This book should be used in conjunction with another on this list to learn all the tools for law school mastery. It talks about how to see the ambiguous points in the facts or the law and how to make these issues what you focus in your study and in your exam writing. Although long and detailed, the book should give any student a better idea of how to write a good law school exam.

Hegland, Kenney F. Introduction to the Study and Practice of Law in a Nutshell. Thompson West, 2003 [Reserve KF273.H4 2003]. This book includes some matter extraneous to law school performance, too, but the second part of it focuses on study skills. Like most other books in this bibliography, it discusses how to brief cases. The chapter on exam writing, which is subtitled, "The Only Skill Worth Having" is very useful.

Miller, Robert H. Law School Confidential: A Complete Guide to the Law School Experience: By Students, For Students. St. Martin's Griffin [KF283.M55 2004]. This book discusses the entire law school experience from deciding whether or not to go to law school and choosing a law school to seeking work, making the most of clerkships, etc. The author's method for briefing cases is one reason for giving it a look. Miller also gives a very useful tip about the need when all is said and done to learn the black letter law. He, like almost every other author, emphasizes the need for outlining.

Munneke, Gary A. How to Succeed in Law School. Barron's Educational Series, Inc. 2001 [KF283.M86 2001]. Munneke's book is devoted entirely to the subject of succeeding in law school. It has detailed discussions of briefing, note taking, exam taking, the need for review, etc. Munneke demonstrates techniques for doing these things and his advice is worth the time it takes to read the book.

Nygren, Carolyn. Starting Off Right in Law School. Carolina Academic Press, 1997 [KF273.N97 1997]. This is a shorter book than the others. It uses a discussion of one topic in contract law, the implied warranty of merchantability, to illustrate the points it makes. The author has her own, useful method for briefing cases which bears considering. Also, she makes the very important point that the most important part of exam preparation is writing practice exams.

Shapo, Helene and Shapo, Marshall. Law School Without Fear: Strategies for Success. Foundation Press, 2002 [KF286.S44 2002]. This book contains quite a lot of material about what the law is. It discusses the forms law takes, precedent in law, procedure, policy, etc. However, there are more important and useful chapters on briefing, studying, exam taking and the psychological aspects of law school.

Stropus, Ruta K. and Taylor, Charlotte D. Bridging the Gap Between College and Law School: College and Law School Strategies for Success. Carolina Academic Press, 2001 [KF283.S77 2001]. This is one of the two best books in the library on how to succeed in law school. The other is the book by Dennis Tonsing. The book is totally devoted to what you must do to excel in law school. It has thorough discussions of briefing, note taking, outlining, using flow charts—a very useful study technique, reviewing, exam taking, time management and so forth. This is not a lengthy book, and it seems well worth the time it would take to read it.

Tonsing, Dennis J. 1000 Days to the Bar But the Practice of Law Begins Now: How to Achieve Your Personal Best in Law School. William S. Hein, 2003 [KF272.T66 2003]. This book is devoted in its entirety to succeeding in law school. It also is not a very long book, and with the Stropus and Taylor book above is the best of this bunch. It talks about all the essentials for doing well in law school—briefing, note taking, outlining, using flow charts, the need to revise and modify your study aids, writing practice exams and time management. Because of the detail and insight in the discussions of these skills, it is a highly recommended reading.