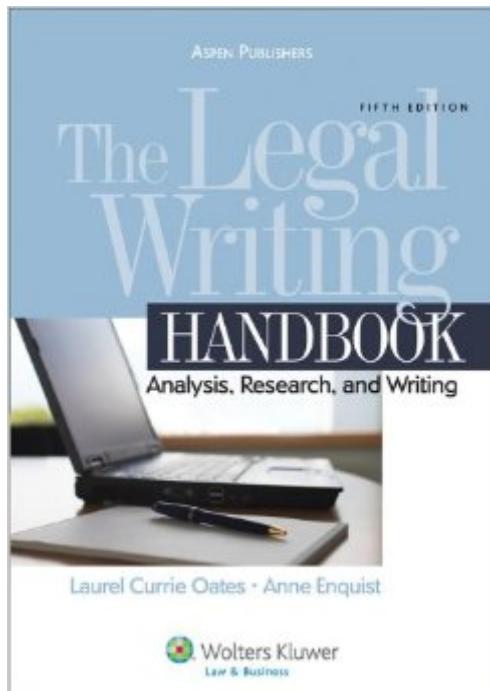


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# The Legal Writing Handbook: Analysis, Research And Writing, 5th Edition



## **Synopsis**

Students and professors will welcome this new edition of the only text for legal writing and research that covers all three key components of the first-year course -- research, writing, and analysis. These distinctive features earned THE LEGAL WRITING HANDBOOK its popularity: comprehensive coverage of analysis, writing, and research; teaches a state of the art approach to legal research, with an emphasis on electronic research; uses a process approach to lead students from pre-writing to drafting, editing, and the final draft; begins with the basics of the legal system, introducing students to how to read and analyze statutes and cases, then takes students through the process of writing an objective memorandum and trial and appellate briefs; offers resources to help students become more effective writers, including extensive guidance on effective legal style, grammar, and mechanics; demonstrates concepts through the use of examples; provides grammar and rhetorical/cultural information designed specifically for law students for whom English is a second language; broad coverage makes the book easy to adapt for two-, three-, or four-semester programs; provides numerous exercises in an accompanying Practice Book to help students master research and writing skills. Through painstaking editing, the Fifth Edition incorporates new material without increasing the length of the book: a reorganized and updated presentation of research reflects the changes in practice. Exhibits are now included on CD with the book, for easy reference. A new section on legal reading, the section on writing memos includes new examples and an additional chapter on writing more sophisticated memos; the increased use of Practice Pointers and Questions reflects the latest research on active learning, while the emphasis on teaching underlying structures applies research on transfer of learning new, short sections raise issues relating to professionalism and the role of lawyers; the chapter on effective paragraphs and the sections on Legal Writing for English-as-a-Second-Language Students and on bias-free and gender-neutral language are all thoroughly updated; new material offers advice on how to avoid procrastination and other writing obstacles.

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## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

I thoroughly enjoyed this valuable tool for all beginning lawyers. The information contained in this book was insightful, accurate and helpful. The book's coverage of the English language also provided a good guidance for those that are already experts as well as for amateurs. I would highly recommend the book to all law students and beginning lawyers.

Easy to read instructions and very formative for every level of legal writing. Strongly recommend and is worth the price.

Very little highlighting and got to me just in the nick of time! I would purchase this again. The book itself seems to be pretty useful for my purposes up to now. It can be a little repetitive, as a law student you only want to have to read something one time!

For a remedial writing course, this book would probably be great. For a graduate-level course where students are expected to have basic compositional skills, however, it's pretty much superfluous. That's not to say that this is a bad book; it's not. The information it provides is accurate and the presentation is clear. It simply doesn't tell you anything that you shouldn't already know. The section on how to research is a good example of this. Students are instructed to "read and re-read" statutes and court decisions to make sure that those statutes and court decisions are understood. The book also outlines the difference between primary and secondary sources. These are valid points. These are also things that any graduate student should already understand how to do. I understand that every law student is different and that this information may be useful to some, but it's just too basic to be appropriate for a non-remedial course. The sections on how to cite or how to format a brief are, of course, relevant for pretty much everyone, but I think that students with a decent understanding of rhetoric would generally be served at least as well (and probably better) by

a copy of the Blue Book and a link to their state court's regulations for the format of briefs and pleadings as well as to example briefs and pleadings (which are published free of charge by many state courts today). Again, this isn't a bad book, it's just a level or so below what I feel is appropriate for graduate-level courses.

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