
2. "AALS Survey of Law Schools on Programs and Courses Designed to Enhance Bar Examination Performance" (2002) 52 J. Legal Educ. 453. AALS survey is an article which discusses various courses or other academic opportunities at AALS member law schools to increase the bar pass rate of their graduates. Both specific courses focused on the bar and other courses designed to strengthen skills tested on the bar are discussed. Encompassed within the discussion is academic support. It contains a fairly detailed exposition on just what certain schools are doing and includes assessments, some very preliminary, of the success of their efforts.

3. "Best Practices for Legal Education" Stuckey & Others (2007) is justly the current Bible of legal education and assessment techniques. This is a book, but several of the chapters read well as stand alone. Has excellent section on the effective and appropriate use of the Socratic method. The Chapter on Assessment includes critiques of current methods of summative assessment as well as innumerable ideas.


5. "Conference on New Ideas for Experienced Teachers: We Teach But Do They Learn" (2001) Conference on New Ideas is basically a compilation of links to materials shared at a conference on teaching the law. I’ve saved the Program for the conference in a separate document to make it easier to navigate through the incredible wealth of materials contributed.

6. "Developing An Empirical Model to Test Whether Required Writing Exercises or Other Changes in Large-Section Law Class Teaching Methodologies Results in Improved Exam Performance" Jones and Washington (2007) 57 J. Legal Educ. 195. Looks at comparative student performance in two courses, one with written exercises and feedback and one without. Results—the students who benefitted the most from writing intervention were those with above average LSATs and above average UG GPA’s. Wonderful citations, especially in the first part of the article to various reported studies of LSAT scores as predictors of success.


10. "Guidance Notes: Ensuring Successful Assessment" Bone (1999) Published by the National Centre for Legal Education. Ensuring Successful Assessment – British style. This is article reviewing and suggesting ways to assess students gaining a legal education. Chapter 3 on varieties of assessment has some interesting ideas.

really first rate discussion of how an Australian law school reviewed its curriculum, articulated learning outcomes and looked at assessment, both formative and summative. A nice theoretical discussion of assessment. Has some good active links in the footnotes.

12. "How Do We Know If We Are Achieving Our Goals?: Strategies for Assessing the Outcome of Curricular Innovation" Munro (2002) J. of Assoc. of Legal Writing Directors 229. A short, very accessible article by Munro, guru of law school assessment, giving an overview of curricular learning outcomes and assessment.

13. "The Impact of Expectations on Teaching and Learning" Glesner-Fines (2002) 38 Gonz. L. Rev. 89. This article discusses how the level of professorial expectations on group and individual learning is frequently self-fulfilling.


15. "Moving Beyond Langdell: An Annotated Bibliography of Current Methods for Law Teaching" Torres and Harwood (1994) 29 Gonz. L.Rev. 1. Course specific bibliography on teaching techniques and ideas. Almost every course topic taught at SJCL is on his list. (Most of the citations are to law review articles. All of these can be accessed remotely by logging in the the SJCL website, and going to the Law Library and looking at Hein on Line.)


17. "Lightening and Englightening Exam Conferences" Seamon (2006) 56 J. Legal Educ. 122. Examination Conferences is an article which discusses and has suggestions for making student-faculty exam conferences more productive.

18. "Literature on Learning and Assessment" (2007) is a bibliography of books on learning and assessment in higher education, not limited to legal education.

19. "Make the Student the Professor" Nelson (2001). This short piece has ideas about giving students a matrix from a prior exam and having them “grade” two slightly doctored student answers, one poor and one well done. Allows review of substantive material and gives students an insight into examination process.

20. "Outcome Assessments for Law Schools" Munro (2000) Institute for Law School Teaching, Gonzaga University School of Law, is a book which methodically makes the case for diversity in formative and summative assessment mechanisms based upon learning outcomes. The author discusses various forms of assessment by institutions and in the classroom. At about 170 pages it is a very easy read. Appendix H has a solid selection of general books on assessment.


23. Plenary Assessment Document, Adcock reviews how the University of Charlotte law school derived its learning outcomes.

25. "The 'Reasonable Zone of Right Answers': Analytical Feedback on Student Writing" Gionfriddo (2005) 40 Gonz. L. Rev. 427. Analytical Feedback creates a contextual framework for giving students feedback on written assignments. The author includes 3 examples of student writing and the thought process behind the feedback she would give the student.

26. "The State of the Property Course: A Statistical Analysis" Wendel and Popovich (2006) 56 J. Legal Educ. 216. Property Law-OK I may be the only one interested, but dissects the teaching of real property by schools. I'm not the only one who loves Future Interests!


28. "Using the Examination as a Teaching Tool" Goutin (2001). Examination Packet idea. Professor of transaction-based class distributes extensive file to class before examination. Examination then "adds" a little to packet for testing purposes. Interesting idea to allow students to contemplate prior to exam the types of exam questions which might be generated from materials.