

A Must-Have for Every Legal Research Professor
Created by a Leading Group of Legal Scholars

The Boulder Statements on Legal Research Education

The Intersection of Intellectual and Practical Skills

Edited by Susan Nevelow Mart
University of Colorado Law School

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on Legal Research
Education



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Essential for Those Who See Legal Research Education as Fundamental to Legal Education

Legal research education too often remains bibliographic-based, with resources typically by their physical characteristics and research methods for the resources' print and electronic formats explained and compared.

The Boulder Statements on Legal Research Education envision legal research education as an intellectual, analytical, and iterative process. The statements' goal is to teach students to think strategically about their research processes, understand the sources they are using and why they are useful, analyze their results, and engage in continual adjustment of their strategy and evaluation of their results until reaching a resolution to the research problem. The pedagogy based on the statements is intended to emphasize the intellectual aspect of legal research and its pivotal place in legal education.

The book encompasses a growing understanding among legal research educators on the application of Boulder Statements principles to legal research education. Templates are included for lesson planning, and provide guidance for legal research faculty who wish to use the Boulder Statements pedagogy. This book is essential for those who see legal research education as fundamental to legal education.

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"[...] This book represents an important addition to body of scholarship, both practical and theoretical, discussing legal research instruction for new lawyers and the need it make it a more central part of any law school curriculum."

-Law Library Journal



About the Authors

Susan Nevelow Mart is an Associate Professor and Director of the Law Library at the University of Colorado Boulder School of Law. Her scholarly and teaching interests center on legal informatics. She has written and presented nationally and locally on legal information policy, national security and libraries, access to information, computer information retrieval systems, and legal research pedagogy. Before joining Colorado Law, Professor Mart served as the Faculty Services Librarian and adjunct professor of law at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law.

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Sarah Valentine is the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and a Professor at CUNY School of Law. She currently presents and writes on the need to secure safe and ethical treatment of queer youth in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems and on the importance of teaching legal research as a both a legal and a lawyering skill.

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