Fall 2016 Newsletter: The Docket

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As we begin the Fall 2016 semester, we want to remind you of how the library can enhance your law school experience. Whether you are first joining us as a One-L or you are a returning student, we hope that you will make use of library services. Here are some of the resources we have to offer.

**LEGAL DATABASES**

The library gives you subscription access to the following databases:

- Westlaw
- Lexis
- HeinOnline
- CALI
- New York Times Online
- LegalTrac
- MCLE online

Please speak to a librarian if you have questions about these resources.

**STUDY SPACE**

The library offers space for both group study (first floor) and silent study (lower level and second floor). Private rooms are available on a first come-first served basis. We hope that you will use our white boards and collaborative learning stations.

**STUDY AIDS AND RESERVE BOOKS**

The library keeps one copy of each required book behind the circulation desk. These reserve books are convenient when you have forgotten your copy or you need to scan a few pages. They may be checked out for two hours at a time. Study aids are also kept behind the circulation desk and circulate for a period of two hours. Study aids often include outlines, multiple choice questions, essay questions, and examples and explanations. They will help you prepare for class and exams.

**LIBRARY HOURS**

**Sunday:** 11am – midnight

**Monday – Thursday:** 7:30am – midnight

**Friday:** 7:30am – 9pm

**Saturday:** 8am – 6pm
Research Help at Your Fingertips.

This semester we are piloting a Live Chat service to give students an opportunity to talk with a librarian online. Whether you are studying from the comfort of home or you are making the commute from work to school, you may send us a message from your laptop or phone. You can ask us anything from “What are your hours?” to “How do I find articles related to Family Law?”

Web Link: Find the chat icon on our website: http://www.umassd.edu/law/library/

SMS: An SMS number will be emailed to students during the first few weeks of Fall classes.

Live Chat Hours
Mon-Thurs 10am – 6pm
Friday 10am – 4pm
Saturday and Evening Hours - as librarians are available

1L LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE
FRIDAY
AUGUST 19th
12:30pm – 2:30pm

Food, prizes and fun! Meet the librarians, learn about the library, and scope out the prime study spots. RSVP to lawlib@umassd.edu.

Join Us for Ice Cream!

Pokemon Themed Scavenger Hunt!
Research Café Has New Hours

Research Café is back! Stop by the café with your library or research questions (or to just say hi).

Mondays 4-5pm & Thursdays 12-1pm

Law School Cafe

Flash Sessions

Flash sessions are quick in person tutorials that teach you about a new source or research strategy. Bring your topic and be ready to apply your new knowledge during the session!

Research Flash Session #1: Learn to Love the Libguide
Thursday, September 8 @ 12pm
Saturday, September 10 @ 12pm
Law Library Main Floor (at the cooperative learning stations)
*Snacks will be provided.*

Research Flash Session #2: Effective Research Strategies
Thursday, October 13 @ 12pm
Saturday, October 15 @ 12pm
Law Library Main Floor (at the cooperative learning stations)
*Snacks will be provided.*

Feedback About Research Cafe

“Thank you so very much!! I truly appreciate your assistance!”
“A sincere debt of gratitude for your prompt attention to my request”

Upper Level Writing Help

Need some guidance getting started with your Upper Level Writing paper?

Please check out this online guide for research tips:

http://guides.lib.umassd.edu/ulwr

CONTACT INFORMATION

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LIBRARIANS IN THE CLASSROOM

Quick Research Tips

- Search with “terms and connectors” in Lexis and Westlaw. This will help to tailor your results. For more information check out Westlaw’s search guide: https://lscontent.westlaw.com/images/content/WLNT&CSearching.pdf
- Take note of alternative keyword combinations. For example, domestic violence could also be referred to as spousal abuse or intimate partner violence.
- Always follow footnotes to find other useful sources.
- Refer to the library website for important links and research guides: http://www.umassd.edu/law/library/

Schedule

Throughout the semester we will be visiting classrooms to discuss research strategies and sources. Please refer to your syllabus for more information. We will be visiting LAW 653 - Domestic Violence and LAW 696 - Law Review, and other sessions will be scheduled as the semester progresses.

LibGuides

We often design online research guides to specific subjects. For example, we have a guide for Cyber Law and a guide for Trusts and Estates. Please check them out under the “research guides” link on our website. Please let us know what other topics you would like to see in LibGuide format!

Who We Are

Spencer Clough
Library Dean

Misty Peltz-Steele
Assistant Dean of the Law Library

Jessica Almeida
Assistant Librarian

Emma Wood
Assistant Librarian
Library Quiz Show!

Join us for Kahoot trivia at the library collaborative learning stations! Trivia categories run the gamut from law library related topics to pop culture. Prizes awarded after every round!

Two Chances to Win!

Thursday Sept. 22nd
Noon – 1pm
AND
4pm – 5pm

FACEBOOK FRIDAYS

Every Friday, check out the Law Library Facebook page –

https://www.facebook.com/umasslawlibrary

for trivia questions and giveaways!
MONTHLY TECH TALKS

Want to keep up with current technology trends? Do you feel like you’re falling behind? Misty Peltz-Steele will be presenting on a different topic each month! The technology discussed will include:

- Microsoft Word
- Excel
- Cyber Security
- What else would you like to learn more about? Suggestions welcome!

Schedule to be announced.

Contact Misty Peltz-Steele at mpeltzsteele@umassd.edu

Featured Resource

MCLE Online
Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) produces informational material for Massachusetts attorneys. The library subscribes to online access to essential MCLE practice manuals, video tutorials, and live webinars. Students may access MCLE online from any computer inside the law school. If you need access from home, please ask a librarian for the username and password.

http://www.mcle.org/onlinepass/

Check out our online introduction to library resources: http://guides.lib.umassd.edu/lawlibrary