

Flip Your Class!

Technology that Counts

Tools that Improve the Quality of Legal Research Instruction

Flip Your Class!

Poster 28

The Problem:

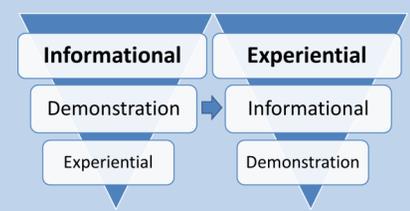
1. Students need more practice to develop legal research skills
2. Students need instructor support *at the time* they're working through practice exercises
3. The model based on in-class lecture and homework exercises isn't effective

Case File:

- Realistic case file
- Redacted case file from an alum
- NITA case file
- Fictitious case file
- Include police reports, witness statements & depositions, medical reports, previously filed pleadings/motions
- Design discrete research tasks that lead students through research process, beginning to end
- Case file searching
- Secondary sources
- Annotated statutes
- Case digests
- Citators
- Written memo

The Solution:

1. Flip the course content
2. Push lecture & demos outside class
3. Bring practical exercises into class



The Process:

1. Match the type of content to the right delivery technology
2. Develop research project simulations
3. Record content



Results:

1. Improved teaching
2. Improved learning

Our Experience:

- Instructors were more efficient with info & demo content
- Videos were shorter than original lecture
- Students watched the videos
- Students were more engaged in class, asked more questions, & seemed to have a better handle on the research process
- Class time was more fun for students & instructors

Informational videos:

- Short < 10 min., digestible
- General, reusable, accessible
- Screen capture + audio (video of speaker optional)
- Screenshots or live navigation
- Echo360, Captivate, Camtasia (TechSmith tools), MediaNotes

Informational Video (requires Flash)



Demonstration tutorials:

- Individually-paced, guided illustration of a research task
- Based on a known case file
- Accessible, browser-neutral, editable,
- Screen capture + audio
- Screenshots of live navigation
- Echo360, Captivate, Camtasia (TechSmith tools)

Demonstration Podcast (requires Flash)



Experiential exercises:

- Mimic process demonstrated in tutorial with a 2nd legal issue from the case file
- Small groups (2—3 students)
- Assign to different research platforms: WL, WLN, LN, LNAdv, Bloomberg Law, print (optional)
- Instructor monitors, answers questions, & gives suggestions
- Low-tech (walk around room) or high-tech (screen share software)
- Ask co-teachers to help
- Bring everyone back for key points & common issues

Decision Points & Lessons Learned:

- License & installation
- how many, who, where?
- Compatibility of hardware/software
- microphone, video
- Inevitable glitches & learning curve
- build in extra time
- File storage, security, & longevity
- talk to media services
- understand edit-ability of file format you choose
- Quiz on video/tutorials to ensure students watch
- Length of videos—keep them short
- Script / no script / somewhere in between



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