



MADN-LIB

15 Sep 2017

**Library Policy Operating Memorandum No. 3.6.9**

**USMA Library Support Statement  
Department of Law**

1. **PURPOSE:** This memorandum describes how the USMA Library will support the Law and Legal Studies Major Student Learning Outcomes and Supporting Objectives as outlined in the current USMA Academic Program (“Red Book”).
2. **INFORMATION LITERACY:** The library will provide instruction to meet the learning outcomes as described below:

**LW199, LW310, LW474, LW475, LW495, LW498/499**

**Student learning outcomes to be supported:**

**Student Learning Outcome 1** Cadets understand how individuals and organizations use and react to law in the pursuit of social, political, and economic goals

- a. Cadets will learn how to read and understand primary sources of American, foreign, and international law, including constitutions, codes, statutes, cases, regulations, and treaties.
- b. Cadets will learn to analyze critically legal commentaries, including news reports, editorials, commentaries, documents, and law review articles.

**Student Learning Outcome 2** Cadets communicate in correct and appropriate legal language when writing and speaking to evince clear and critical thinking

- b. Cadets will learn to apply legal texts and principles when analyzing specific problems and cases in order to reach legally and logically supportable conclusions and decisions.

**Learning outcomes from lesson plans that support departmental learning outcomes:**

Professors will work with liaison librarian to identify topics most applicable to the Legal Method, Capstone, Thesis and other courses. Potential topics of instruction include:

- Databases, to include Lexis Nexis Academic
- Government documents
- Monographs
- Serials
- Interlibrary loan
- Citation management

**Activity:** The activities are dependent on the topics selected by professor and liaison librarian.

**Information Literacy Frames:**

- Authority is Constructed and Contextual
- Information has Value

**Library Instruction Assessment:** Cadets will receive an online assessment to be completed after class.

**How did the class help the instructor meet the identified course objective:** Professors will provide feedback on effectiveness of instruction relative to objectives.





### 3. **COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT**

To support the Student Learning Outcomes, the Liaison Librarian will select materials supporting legal subject matter and legal research. The library does **not** order textbooks required for classes.

Faculty are encouraged to take an active role in collection development. Recommendations for acquisitions in support of the department and main library collections are encouraged.

The library liaison will work to collect materials in support of the Law and Legal Studies Major according to the following criteria:

- Accreditation priorities.
- Appropriateness for the academic programs.
- Appropriateness for cadet and faculty research.
- Cost effectiveness where this does not impede programs.
- Lasting value of the content.
- Appropriateness of treatment level.
- Strength of existing holdings in same or similar subject areas.
- Suitability of format to application.
- Authority of author.
- Reputation of publisher.

4. **PUBLISHED SCHOLARSHIP:** Throughout the year, as faculty members publish, the department liaison officer will compile a list of published works. The Library will collect this information twice a year, covering the periods from 1 Jan to 30 Jun and 1 Jul to 31 Dec. These works will be collected for IID and the Dean's Celebration of West Point Authors.

- 1 Jan to 30 Jun (list completed NLT 31 Aug)
- 1 Jul to 31 Dec (list completed NLT 28 Feb)

5. **COPYRIGHT:** For copyright issues, faculty should consult the Library's internal SharePoint site. This site contains material developed by SJA, the Office of the Dean, and Faculty Council to help faculty understand and manage copyright-related issues in the classroom.

6. **PRINTING:** Courses that will require printed course packs or course notebooks in excess of 50 pages shall arrange for print production/distribution through book issue or the print plant. Cadets shall not be asked or expected to print large documents themselves.





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USMA Library  
758 Cullum Road  
West Point, NY 10996

7. **SUPPORT FOR STAFF ACTIVITIES**: The Library also supports faculty research. Please confer with your liaison librarian about all library resource and research needs.
  
8. **EXPIRATION**: This policy is effective until superseded or rescinded.

CHRISTOPHER D. BARTH  
Librarian and Associate Dean, USMA

