

**Title:** Where the Law Is: An Introduction to Advanced Legal Research

**Authors:** J.D.S. Armstrong & Christopher A. Knott

**Edition:** 4<sup>th</sup>

**Publisher:** West

**Year:** 2013

**Length:** 255 p.

**Price:** Book: \$70.00/Online Book: \$49.00

**Reviewed by:** Dana Rubin, Reference/Education Services Librarian, New York University School of Law Library

**Review:**

Intended audience: Advanced legal research students, law librarians, lawyers

Illustrations: None.

Gaps in coverage: None.

Unique appendices: Selected legal research guides for each state

Major Strengths: Engaging writing style; tables of sources within each chapter provide quick access to locate materials; appendix of state resources.

Major weaknesses: None.

Comments: Where the Law Is provides a clear path to advanced legal research. The book is well-organized, offering a practical approach to tackling legal research problems. It starts off by discussing what the book is aiming to accomplish, and what it is not. This book is for advanced legal research, not general research or current awareness. Where the Law Is covers all of the major topic areas of legal research (statutes, legislative history, secondary sources, cases, etc.), and also includes some less popular areas such as municipal law, form books, and court rules. It is written in an easy to read style that will appeal to students. It provides students with ways to approach research, including the importance of using a research plan. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the book, and there do not seem to be many substantial changes from the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. The main difference appears to be in the online resources that are included. There are now references to Bloomberg Law instead of Loislaw.

This book is not just for students, but would also be helpful for new attorneys and law librarians. The tables within each chapter are useful for a quick reminder of where to find the resources discussed in the book, making it a useful book for reference desks.

Recommendation: Recommended for advanced legal research students, new attorneys and reference librarians.