

2019 National Legal Research Teach-In Kit

Research Instruction & Patron Services Special Interest Section
American Association of Law Libraries

Final Research Question, Advanced Legal Research

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This research question was used as a final assignment in an advanced legal research course I taught at Concordia University School of Law. The research question deals with copyright law and parody. Most students have an idea of what the answer is before beginning the assignment since they have familiarity with Weird Al Yankovic.

In the assignment directions I asked students to find the applicable statutory authority once in print and once electronically. I also asked student to do the same for case law; finding a binding authority in print (meaning that need to use digests, ALR's, or other secondary sources to locate a primary authority in a reporter) and once through a digital research platform like Westlaw. Students were required to keep a research journal so I could see their thought process throughout the assignment.