

# Teaching Legal Research and Writing in a Fully Integrated Way

By Liz McCurry Johnson. The Second Draft, Fall 2017, at 31.

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## **Reviewer's Summary:**

Johnson describes the transformation of the Wake Forest Legal Analysis, Writing, and Research course for 1Ls from a model with a research portion separate from the writing portion, to one with a fully integrated design. A focus was placed on connecting the three modules of the class—orientation, closed universe memo, and research intensive open universe projects—so that the hypo facts and the timing of the students' research and writing assignments would coincide at appropriate points in the semester. The open universe module was designed with two issues so that the first could be approached collaboratively with professor-driven instruction and peer to peer critiques, and the second could be approached by the students by cycling through the same tasks. The evidence that the change was a success came in the form of commentary from the students, as well as improved student performance on the assessments.

**Summarized by:** Cheryl Kelly Fischer, UCLA Law Library, in 2019.