Teaching Legal Research to Today’s Digital Natives


**Article Categories:** Advanced & Subject-Specific Legal Research Instruction; Course Creation & Design; Legal Research Instruction for 1Ls

**Keywords:** Digital Natives; Course Design; Engagement; Flipped Classroom; Generation Z; Habits, Learning Outcomes; Legal Research Instruction; Pedagogy; Social Media

**Reviewer’s Summary:**

In this article, Meyer addresses the process of teaching legal research to the law students of today. He begins by talking about how technology changes quickly and that because of this, much has changed just in the past decade with higher education. He provides some insights and suggestions to those of us who teach legal research in this climate.

First, he highlights how our current students grew up with many of the newer technologies, like Twitter and different apps. Marketing studies have shown that Generation Z will learn differently. For example, these students use different platforms to do one task. Different options like videos and short lectures may help students learn in multiple ways.

He also looks at the use of multiple screens and how they may be reducing attention spans. As a result, he talks about changing his instruction methods by doing things like making tasks more complicated as the semester progresses. He also suggests that instructors be wary of using social media. Students seem more likely to want to work alone. The article ends by talking about how this is an exciting time for librarians in legal education.

**Summarized by:** Cassandra Patterson, Georgia State University College of Law, in 2020.