

Alex Ruskell
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Experience

University of South Carolina School of Law, Columbia, SC 2012-present
Director of Academic Success and Bar Preparation, Faculty

- Created academic support program for approximately 600 students.
- Created the Kick Start Program, a week-long summer academic support program that became a school-wide two-day Orientation.
- Conduct twice-weekly seminars on exam-taking, outlining, bar exam, and other academic support issues for first-year students.
- Created Spring Bar Preparation class for third-year students – bar pass rate increased 7 percent in its first year – program variously ranked 12th, 50th, and 72nd in nation (depending on study); Surpassed 90% goal in 2026.
- Teach One-Semester Bar Prep Program for 3Ls.
- Run First Year Tutor Program.
- Past Board Member, AALS Academic Support Section.
- Past Member AALS Bar Passage Committee.
- Past Member AASE Assessment Committee.
- CALI Board Member and Editor.
- Teach Constitutional Law.
- Teach Shakespeare and the Law.
- Create Inclusive Excellence Programs for Student Groups.
- Faculty Senator.
- Member of University Faculty Welfare Committee.
- Member of Inclusive Excellence Committee
- LSAC PreLaw Committee.

University of Nevada, Las Vegas Boyd School of Law, Las Vegas, NV 2023
○ Visiting Professor, Bar Prep Program

Monterey College of Law, Seaside, CA 2022-present
○ Professor, Constitutional Law
○ Professor, Introduction to Legal Studies
○ Professor, Professional Responsibility
○ Professor, Copyright

Helix Bar Review/Access Lex, Denver, CO 2022-present
○ Grader, Essays and MPTs

Quimbee Study Aids and Bar Review 2016-present
○ Writer of Study Questions and Video Case Study Scripts

Wolters Kluwer Bar Connected Casebook Series 2021-present
○ Writer and Editor of Study Questions

Roger Williams University School of Law, Bristol, RI 2007-2012
Associate Director of Academic Support, Adjunct Professor, and Administrative Director of the Honors Program.
○ Direct academic support program for approximately 600 students.
○ Direct the Jumpstart Program, a week-long early entry program for minority, non-traditional, and other under-represented segments of the law student population.
○ Conduct twice-weekly seminars on exam-taking, outlining, bar exam, and other academic support issues.
○ Conduct the Spring Excel Program, an academic support class for the bottom quarter of the first-year class. Average increase in GPA: .365.
○ Teach additional summer course for third-year students at risk for bar failure.
○ Assist the Dean of Students with Orientation, Third Year Bar Conferences (where we meet with every member of the third-year class to discuss bar prep), and other programs.
○ Direct the law school's Honors Program.
○ Teach upper-level legal methods courses in Contractual Drafting, Water Law, Law and Literature, and Art and Copyright Law.

Kaplan/PMBR, Los Angeles, CA 2007-present
Bar Review Program Instructor, Essay Grader, Civil Procedure/Torts/Contracts MBE Question Writer, Professor in Law School Edge Program, Professor in Comprehensive Bar Review Program at Western New England University School of Law, Lecturer in South Carolina Insurance Law (DVD).
○ Travel around the country giving classes on all six multistate bar topics – Contracts, Property, Evidence, Torts, Criminal Law and Procedure, and Constitutional Law.
○ Grade and critique essays for students enrolled in Kaplan/PMBR bar review program.
○ Teach courses in Civil Procedure and Torts to incoming first-year students.
○ Teach courses in Contracts and Torts at Western New England University School of Law as part of the school's bar review program.
○ South Carolina Insurance Law Professor on DVD Program.
○ Online Tutor for Florida Bar Takers

Southern New England School of Law, North Dartmouth, MA 2006-2007
Director of Academic Success and Adjunct Professor.

- Created and ran academic support program for the students.
- Member of Orientation and Academic Standards Committees.

- Created and planned academic support section of orientation, including diagnostic testing of incoming students for any educational disabilities.
- Conducted weekly exam-writing and individual class support sessions.
- Taught courses in Legal Skills and Law and Literature.

The University of Iowa College of Law, Iowa City, IA 2001-2006
 Assistant (2001-2003), Associate Director of the Legal Writing Center (2003-2006),
 Adjunct Professor of Legal Writing – Contracts (2006)

- Tutored individual students in all forms of legal writing.
- Taught three sections of legal writing portion of Contracts class, including creating all material.
- Created student handouts regarding writing issues.
- Created and administered website, including writing all content.
- Assisted with managing, scheduling, and hiring of writing tutors.

Thomson/West Publishing, St. Paul, MN 2007-present
 Legal Editor

- Create and edit all content for eight criminal law bulletins, School Law Guidebook, Administrative Law Practice Guidebook, Robinson-Patman Act Guidebook, Client Relations Guidebook, Anti-Trust Guidebook, Unfair Competition Guidebook, and International Law Guidebook.

Iowa Wordwrights, Iowa City, IA 2005-2011

- Legal advisor and counsel for writing clients.

University of Iowa Belin-Blank Honors Program, Iowa City, IA 2004-2006

- Designed and taught class on Criminal Law and Procedure for high school honors students, ending in a mock murder trial.

University of Iowa Young Writers' Studio, Iowa City, IA 2003-2005

- Designed and taught summer fiction writing course for high school students.

Kirkwood Community College, Cedar Rapids, IA 2004-2005
 Adjunct Professor.

- Taught two sections of Composition I, the intermediate level undergraduate writing course.

Iowa Book Doctors, Iowa City, IA 2004-2006

- Editor and ghostwriter for several novelists.

The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 2001-2003
 Teaching Assistant in English Literature, Creative Writing Studio Workshop,
 and Individual Fiction Study.

- Taught and designed curriculum for undergraduate writing and literature classes.
- Taught and designed individual study program for undergraduates in fiction writing.

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 2001
Teaching Assistant in Rhetoric and Writing.

- Responsible for small group instruction and grading.
- Conducted classes on grammar and essay organization.

Quinlan Publishing Company, Boston, MA 1999-2007
Company General Counsel (1999-2001) and Legal Editor (1999-2007).

- Responsible for compliance, employment issues, and employee benefit plans.
- Handled legal issues for telemarketing and printing divisions.
- Negotiated and drafted contracts for agreements with other companies.
- Drafted individual contractor agreements for writers and web designers.
- Edited twenty-six different legal bulletins, primarily responsible for six.

The Law Offices of Shelley Draper, Boston, MA 1997-1999
Associate in small securities litigation firm.

- Drafted memoranda, briefs, discovery requests, and motions.
- Attended hearings and depositions.
- Conducted discovery in other states for noncompetition cases.
- Managed lawyers in other states for multi-state noncompetition litigation.

Hinkle, Cox, Eaton, Colfield, and Hensley, Roswell, NM 1996
Summer associate in large oil and gas firm.

- Attended depositions, drafted memoranda, and conducted discovery.

Texas Attorney General's Office, Austin, Texas 1994-1995
Intern in Environmental Crimes Division.

- Conducted discovery, researched case law, and drafted motions.

Education

The University of Iowa Writers' Workshop, M.F.A. in Fiction, May 2003.

Harvard University, A.L.M. in Extension Studies -- English, June 2001.

The University of Texas School of Law, J.D., June 1997.

Activities: Texas Environmental Law Journal, Student Notes Editor
Environmental Law Society, President
London School of Economics, Semester Abroad
Sustainable Development Conference, Co-Chair
Honors: Attorney General Environmental Crimes Fellowship

Washington and Lee University, B.A. in English, June 1994.

Honors: *cum laude*
Paul Knight Fellowship
Todd Smith Fellowship

Publications and Conference Presentations

Guide to the NextGen Bar Exam, Aspen Publishing, 2026.

Strategies and Tactics for Multiple Choice on the NextGen Bar Exam, Aspen Publishing, 2025.

The BarBri Legal Handbook, Chapter from Weekly Guide, 2024.

NextGen Integrated Question Sets, NCBE and Helix Bar Review, 2024.

A Weekly Guide to Becoming a Model Law Student, Third Edition, West Publishing, 2024.

Strategies and Tactics for the First Year Law Student, Second Edition, Aspen Publishing, 2024.

Aspen Leading Edge Podcast, 2024.

SALT Teaching Conference, "Joy as an Act of Resistance," Boston, MA 2024.

AASE Conference, "How to Build an Academic Support Program, Boise, Idaho 2024.

AASE Diversity Conference, "Results of the BePrep Summer Program," Washington, D.C. 2023.

Strategies and Tactics for the MPRE, Eighth Edition, Aspen Publishing, 2023.

Strategies and Tactics for the Finz Multistate Method, Sixth Edition, Aspen Publishing, 2022.

A Weekly Guide to Becoming a Model Law Student, Second Edition, West Publishing, 2021.

Law School Academic Support Blog, Contributing Editor for Law Professors Blog Network – national Top 50 Law Blog in amount of readership, 2013 to 2016.

Strategies and Tactics for the MPRE, Seventh Edition, Aspen Publishing, 2021.

Strategies and Tactics for the Finz Multistate Method, Revision, Aspen Publishing, 2013.

"Workshops in the Law Classroom," *The Law Teacher*, 2011.

Steve Emanuel's First Year Q&A, Revision, Aspen Publishing, 2011.

Aspen's California Bar Review, Editor, Aspen Publishing, 2011.

Steve Emanuel's Bootcamp for the MBE, Editor, Aspen Publishing, 2010.

Casenote Legal Briefs, Professional Responsibility, Writer, Aspen Publishing, 2010.

Bouvier Online Legal Dictionary, Editor, Aspen Publishing, 2010.

Strategies and Tactics for the First Year Law Student, Revision, Aspen Publishing, 2010.

Strategies and Tactics for the Finz Multistate Method, Revision, Aspen Publishing, 2010.

Strategies and Tactics for the MPRE, Revision, Aspen Publishing, 2009.

Kaplan/PMBR Finals Review – Contracts, Revision, Kaplan Publishing, 2009.

"From What Spirit and to What Do You Drive?" *Rhode Island Bar Journal*, March/April 2009.

"You and the Second Amendment," *Spotlight Program for High School Students*, UMASS-Dartmouth, April 11, 2008.

"Bong Hits for Jesus: Student Issues in Free Speech," *Spotlight Program for High School Students*, UMASS-Dartmouth, May 10, 2007.

"Is the Great American Novel Dead?" *American Association of Writing Programs*, Austin, Texas, March 8-11, 2006.

"Best Non-Required Reading 2005," *Book Review, American Book Review*, Spring 2006.

"What Goes Without Saying: Perspectives on Audience," *The Art of Legal Writing Conference*, Washington, D.C., April 8, 2005.

"A Guy Walks into a Bar: Creative Writing and Legal Thought," *Rocky Mountain Regional Legal Writing Conference*, Tempe, AZ, March 11, 2005.

“LLCs and Landlording,” *Landlord’s Bottom Line*, September 2005.

“Pest Control,” *Landlord’s Bottom Line*, April 2005.

“The Landlord’s Responsibility for Criminal Acts,” *Landlord’s Bottom Line*, February 2005.

“Oral Leases,” *Landlord’s Bottom Line*, November 2004.

“Disappearing Tenants,” *Landlord’s Bottom Line*, August 2004.

“Eminent Domain,” *Landlord’s Bottom Line*, July 2004.

“Child Protection,” *Law Enforcement Bulletin*, July 2004.

“Subletting,” *Landlord’s Bottom Line*, November 2003.

“Creative Ideas for Filling Retail Vacancies,” *Landlord’s Bottom Line*, September 2003.

“Idaho Fish and Game,” *Another Country*, Red Line Press, 2001.

Manufactured Home Manager’s Guide, Quinlan Publishing, 1999.

“U.S. dollars, culture drive Russia’s black market,” *The Tampa Tribune*, Feb. 15, 1994.

“Late Night at the Zen Cafe,” *Just a Moment*, 1993.