Writing and Communication Skills
Research Guide

Books in the Legislative Library

General Writing


Legal Writing


The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation. 20th ed. 2015 REF KF 245 .B58


Legal Writing Style. Antonio Gidi & Henry Weihofen. West Academic. KF 250 .W4 2018

**Speaking**

**Fearless Public Speaking.** Patrick King. PN 4129.15 .K56 2017


**Simply Said: Communicating Better at Work and Beyond.** Jay Sullivan. Wiley. HF 5718 .S855 2017

**Spy the Lie: Former CIA Officers Teach you How to Detect Deception.** Philip Houston, Michael Floyd, & Susan Carnicero. St. Martin’s Griffin. HV 8078 .S69 2012


**Websites**

**Purdue Online Writing Lab (https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/)**
One of the premier online guides to writing style. Covers the writing process, grammar and mechanics, and specific disciplines such as journalism, social sciences, engineering, literature, and healthcare. The MLA and APA style guides are thorough and up-to-date.

What does “dilly dilly” mean? What is the difference between “illegal” and “unlawful”? Where did the expression “the proof is in the pudding” come from? This site is an excellent guide to tricky grammar and usage questions. It is also available as a podcast.

**Grammarly (www.grammarly.com)**
A free downloadable app that automatically detects potential grammar, spelling, punctuation, word choice, and style mistakes in writing. Integrates with Chrome or Office products.

**150 Writing Resources (https://oedb.org/ilibrarian/150-writing-resources/)**
This list has everything! Citation and grammar guides, specialty dictionaries, fact-checking sites, news digests, composition software—everything you need to step up your writing game.

Updated 05/23/18