

# Submission Guidelines

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## About The Student Lawyer

The Student Lawyer is a free online resource that designed to make legal news and articles accessible to future lawyers.

Everything on the site is written by law students or practising professionals and is aimed solely at those hoping to become lawyers or have recently started their career. The Student Lawyer is intended for law students of all levels, across the world and is entirely free. If you are serious about a career in the law, we hope that The Student Lawyer will become an indispensable part of the journey to your desired career.

## Submitting your work for publication

- First read the writing briefs below to familiarise yourself with the types of pieces we publish.
- Save your submission as a Word document (.doc or .docx).
- Email your submission to: [publishing@thestudentlawyer.com](mailto:publishing@thestudentlawyer.com).
- Include a short bio at the bottom of your piece, 2–3 lines about yourself.
- The Managing Editor will review your submission for publication and reply within a week.
- Should your piece be accepted for publication, it will then be subject to our usual editorial process.
- The Editor will use the 'track changes' function to edit or make comments on your piece. Please make any revisions to your piece within the same document they return to you, and leave track changes turned on so that they may see your updates.
- The Editorial Team reserves the right to make small changes to your piece, but will consult the writer over any significant content issues or will ask for approval over such changes made.
- Please note that the scheduling of submissions is dependant on a number of factors, such as whether an issue is especially current or whether there are other pieces already pending publication. Please do

not worry if it is not published immediately; unless we've told you otherwise, it will be. If you believe that your submission needs to be published urgently, please indicate this when you first submit it and we will endeavour to fast track it through the editorial process.

- Any piece accepted for publication may be used by The Student Lawyer and Rockwood Maple Limited for any purpose, including but not limited to marketing materials. All submissions must be previously unpublished and must be the author's own work.

## Writing briefs

If you're considering writing for The Student Lawyer, please take a look at the writing briefs below. We publish a variety of pieces from headlines to interviews on any topics that fall within the law or legal education area.

## Features

In general, features do not have a set length. They tend to be around 1000–1500 words, though they may be more or less than that.

### General features (Crime/Civil/Public/World)

Noticed an area that's currently being considered for reform? A tricky area of law for students to get their heads around? An area that's seen recent developments? This might appeal to the more academic among you, but as law students or lawyers, you'll be accustomed to writing essay-style pieces.

If you're unsure whether or not your idea will be of interest, before writing it, send us an outline and we'll let you know what we think.

## Reviews

There are hundreds of law books out there, educational and informative, or fictional and fun. Have you read a book about or around law recently? Jot down your thoughts and tell our readers why you thought it was great/terrible. Think back to the sorts of books you read before starting law school; perhaps they inspired you to start your journey into the law.

You may also have noticed that there has been a recent spate of television shows about lawyers and the law. This year we had reviews of *The Jury* and the new season of *Silk*, and most recently *Ramsay Behind Bars* and the BBC programme *The Strange Case of the Law*. Tell us about your favourite TV

lawyers! Reviews tend to be shorter than most features, so even a short piece of 300–500 words would be welcome.

Before embarking on writing your review, do quickly check the website to see whether or not it has already been covered by another writer.

### [Five Minutes On \*The Student Lawyer\*](#)

This feature is dedicated to interviews with professionals working in and around the legal system. If you have any suggestions of people/contacts who might be approached to participate, please write to us first with your ideas for the area you'd like the subject to discuss, then we'll give you the go ahead to approach and see if they're interested. Submit a series of questions to us and we'll let you know if there's anything that could be improved. It would be great to see some interviews with different types of law professional, such as:

- Solicitors
- Barristers
- Academics
- Magistrates
- Judges
- Legal publishers
- ILEX lawyers
- Paralegals

### [Mooting blog](#)

We'd love you to share your mooting experiences with our readers. It need not be a long entry. Tell us what you learned about your own and your competitors' performance and help others to hone their skills.

### [Education & Practice features](#)

This section contains anything to do with the student journey up to, including and after a qualifying law degree. Here are some recent feature topics we've had in this section:

- Pupillage applications
- BPTC applications
- Mooting skills
- Getting work experience
- Qualifying sessions
- Interview advice
- Psychometric testing and assessment centres
- Online applications

- Mini-pupillages
- Networking
- Choosing a GDL provider
- Sandwich courses
- Law fairs

Here's some more ideas for this section we'd like to publish:

- your personal experiences in vacation schemes and applying for them
- how to choose the right firms/chambers to apply to
- choosing the right university/school/course
- how to make the most of chambers evenings
- how to improve your CV
- successful study skills for LLB/GDL/LPC/BPTC
- legal writing skills
- choosing electives
- non-practising lawyers and job opportunities
- alternative careers in law
- what to do when you don't get a TC/pupillage

Think about all the information you wanted to know about the profession before you started out. We're particularly looking for more content geared towards would-be solicitors at the moment. If you can think of any other ideas relevant to education, we'd be happy to hear from you.

### [Case law](#)

Each case law piece gives a rundown of a recent, significant UKSC judgment, with full citation, the facts, appellate history, the judges, and the reasons for their decision. If you're unsure of how to approach this type of piece, have a look on the website at the first two written by Naomi Loomes to get a feel for the style we are looking for.

### [Opinion pieces](#)

You're a law student or lawyer, right? You must have some strong opinions on current legal issues! Perhaps you have a bee in your bonnet, or you'd just like to share a slightly different perspective. As long as your opinions are grounded in fact and decent research, they may well be valuable to share with the wider public. It's great for the website to stimulate discussion with exciting or controversial topics as it engages our readers more frequently.