All of the books listed below have been ordered, and will be placed on two-hour reserve in the King Library Reserve Room.

Part One: Self-Assessment – Is Law School Right for Me?

Is law school for me? Why choose a legal career? What are my goals and values? What kind of legal practice would suit me best?

Law School Memoirs

Scott Turow, *One L: The Turbulent True Story of a First Year at Harvard Law School* (1988) (a bit dated, but interesting nonetheless)


**Big Firm Attorney Memoirs**

Cameron Stracher, *Double Billing: A Young Lawyer’s Tale of Greed, Sex, Lies, and the Pursuit of a Swivel Chair* (1999) (extremely hilarious, sometimes too cynical, but still rings true)
http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/detail/-/0688172229/qid=1080841537/sr=1-1/ref=sr_1_1/104-3787952-8928752?v=glance&s=books

William R. Keates, *Proceed with Caution: A Diary of the First Year at One of America’s Largest, Most Prestigious Law Firms* (1997) (a more anxiety-ridden account of a first-year associate’s life)
http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/detail/-/0159001811/ref=pd_bxgy_text_1/104-3787952-8928752?v=glance&s=books&st=*

John C. Tucker, *Trial and Error: The Education of a Courtroom Lawyer* (2003) (a successful partner’s perspective, written by a former trial attorney at one of Chicago’s most prestigious law firms)


**Unconventional Choices**

Kimm Alayne Walton, *America’s Greatest Places to Work with a Law Degree* (1998) (excellent advice for those pursuing a legal career more closely tailored to their values and interests)

Part Two: The Law School Application Planning Process

What kinds of courses should I take at Miami? Do law schools prefer certain majors? How important is my G.P.A.? Do internships and extra-curricular activities help? How should I prepare for the LSAT?

General Advice


Richard Montauk, *How to Get into the Top Law Schools* (2001) (based on interviews with dozens of admissions officers & includes advice on essay writing)

Choosing Law Schools

Princeton Review’s On-line Guide to Law Schools
http://www.princetonreview.com/law/research/

The Leiter Report (an alternative to the U.S. News Rankings)
http://www.utexas.edu/law/faculty/bleiter/rankings/

Cynthia Cooper, *The Insider’s Guide to the Top Fifteen Law Schools* (out of print, used copies available on Amazon)

National Association for Public Interest Law
http://www.equaljusticeworks.org/finance/

*look under “loan repayment information” for listing of law schools which offer loan repayment assistance programs.

Law School Admissions Council, Financial Aid Primer
Studying for the LSAT (see also Professor Dodd’s FAQ on the LSATs)

General LSAT Advice & Strategies


Princeton Review, *Cracking the LSAT 2004* (recommended by Professor Dodd for logic games)

Official LSATs for practice, with explanations


Writing an Effective Essay

Note: Essays do matter – once you get past the GPA/LSAT hurdle. Tailor your essays for each individual school and you’ll stand out from the hundreds of other anonymous applicants. Consider your essay to be an opportunity to explain why this law school is a good fit. Admissions officials want to have a reason to pick any given student from a large pool of well-qualified applicants, so offer them some of those reasons in your application essay.

Boykin Curry, et al.  *Essays that Worked for Law School*  