



Effective Legal Writing in the AI Era

ORIGINAL PROGRAM DATE

December 11, 2025

REPORTING YOUR CREDIT

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DESCRIPTION

Effective legal writing is an essential but often resource intensive task for legal professionals. With new tools offered through artificial intelligence, practitioners have unprecedented resources to further enhance these skills. This engaging on-demand course refreshes your legal writing skills and considers how practitioners, both new and experienced, utilize AI in their process.

AGENDA

1 Effective Legal Writing to its Core

This presentation will cover three core aspects of effective writing. First, it will review organizational techniques that make writing easier for the reader to follow including headings, paragraphing, topic sentences, roadmaps, and signposts. Second, it will present strategies for writing clearly at the sentence level including using active voice, dovetailing, and managing long sentences. Third, we will cover some of the most common grammar and punctuation errors that come up in legal writing, focusing on those that can impact the meaning or the clarity of the writing.

Professor Kathryn Boling – Seattle University School of Law, Seattle, WA

2 Effective Legal Writing with AI

This session will introduce attorneys to the practical, ethical, and professional dimensions of using generative AI in legal writing. I will discuss emerging patterns in how law students and employers are integrating AI into legal research and writing, drawing on data from a recent student survey and the Washington State Bar Association's 2024 study on attorney use of AI. Through interactive polling and discussion, participants will compare their own experiences with those of law students and colleagues statewide.

You will come away with helpful ideas about how to use AI in the legal writing process—from assisting with research to revising for organization to editing for style—and the importance of verifying AI-generated output for accuracy and bias. I will also review how to find relevant ethical and court rules on AI use and address new citation guidance under The Bluebook.

The session will conclude with practical recommendations and a curated list of resources for attorneys who want to explore advanced topics, such as prompt design and product comparisons, that are beyond the scope of this presentation.

Professor Amanda K Stephen – University of Washington, School of Law, Seattle, WA