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Information for Submitting to Online Law Review Companions

Bridget J. Crawford*

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The following materials, modeled after the chart prepared by Professor Allen Rostron and Professor Nancy Levit at the University of Missouri Kansas City School of Law, contain information about online companions of main law reviews and journals at the top 20 schools (as determined by the most recent US News overall ranking, not because that system merits endorsement, but because it is convenient). Specifically, the chart derives from the journals' websites the following information:

- Name of the online journal
- Word count limitation, if any
- Subject matter limitations, if any
- Preferred essay/commentary/review submission method
- Whether articles from online journal are included in HeinOnline's Law Journal Library
- Other information of possible interest to authors.

For further information concerning the rankings of the journals and their associated law schools, please consult the source of your choosing. Many colleagues find the Washington & Lee law review rankings website helpful. It is [here](https://managementtools4.wlu.edu/LawJournals):
<https://managementtools4.wlu.edu/LawJournals>

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Name of Online Journal	Word Count Limitations	Subject matter limitations, if any	Preferred article/essay submission method
Yale Law Journal Forum	Recommended that submissions be between 2,500 and 5,000 words (including footnotes)	<p>“Essays...bear directly on unfolding legal events, blending the common appeal of op-eds with the rigor of scholarship.”</p> <p>“Responses are scholarly reactions to our print and online content.”</p> <p>“Collections are explorations of a single legal subject, with authors contributing distinct perspectives and engaging in dialogue with each other.”</p>	<p>Submit via proprietary website: https://yalelawjournal.force.com/submissions/s/login/?ec=302&startURL=%2Fsubmissions%2Fs%2F</p> <p>or</p> <p>If you have questions or require further assistance, please contact the <i>Journal's</i> Managing Editors at ylj@yalelawjournal.org.</p> <p>MS Word format required</p>

Name of Online Journal	Word Count Limitations	Subject matter limitations, if any	Preferred article/essay submission method
SLR Online (Stanford)	3,000 words (including footnotes), typically with approximately 30 footnotes Submissions > 4,000 words will generally be rejected	“[S]ubmissions should be original pieces of timely scholarship on newsworthy topics and accessible to a wide audience.”	Submit via proprietary website: https://www.stanfordlawreview.org/submissions/online-article/ Microsoft Word or .rtf (no PDFs accepted) All identifying information must be removed from submission.
Harvard Law Review Forum	Responses (8k words, solicited by them) Essays (13k words; solicited or via submission) Commentaries (6k words; typically solicited) Book Reviews = 8k words solicited or via submission	Responses, commentaries or essays (see next column)	Submit via proprietary website: https://harvardlawreview.org/submissions/submit-now/ Can email with questions theforum@harvardlawreview.org . Do not submit using this email. “Responses are scholarly comments <u>solicited by us</u> responding to our print Articles, Essays, and Book Reviews. “Commentaries are timely reactions to recent legal developments. These pieces employ a more informal style and use citations more sparingly.” “Essays are longer explorations of recent legal developments, usually standing alone rather than in dialogue with others.” “ <i>Forum</i> Book Reviews are shorter reviews of recent books than would appear in the print volume.” (not specified whether word counts include footnotes) Not clear if blind review process that applies to articles applies to these shorter pieces.

Name of Online Journal	Word Count Limitations	Subject matter limitations, if any	Preferred article/essay submission method
The University of Chicago Law Review Online	Strong preference for <6k words. Will not consider pieces >10k words	None specified	<p>Submit via email to uchicagolawreviewonline@gmail.com</p> <p>Has a blog denominated “The University of Chicago Law Review Online” but submissions there seem to be written mostly current students</p> <p>“Footnote lite” policy</p>
CLR Forum (formerly Columbia Law Review Online; formerly known as <i>Sidebar</i>) (Columbia)	Strong preference for pieces between 3,000 to 10,000 words including footnotes	Journal publishes “short, timely works of original scholarship, often responding to new legal developments or anticipating changes that will come in the future, as well as responses to scholarship that appears in the <i>Review</i> ’s print edition”	<p>Scholastica</p> <p>As of 2/1/22: “The <i>Columbia Law Review</i> is no longer accepting email submissions to the Symposium & Book Review Editor at this time.”</p> <p>Microsoft Word format preferred</p> <p>Journal encourages use of gender-neutral language</p>

Name of Online Journal	Word Count Limitations	Subject matter limitations, if any	Preferred article/essay submission method
New York University Law Review Online	<p>Maximum length of 10k words (unspecified if this includes footnotes).</p> <p>Responses are no more than 4,000 words (not specified whether that includes footnotes).</p>	<p>“submissions that are shorter, timely, and accessible to those outside of legal academia, like what you would like to read on your phone while commuting to work or class”</p>	Scholastica or email Senior Online Editor at lml491@nyu.edu

Name of Online Journal	Word Count Limitations	Subject matter limitations, if any	Preferred article/essay submission method
University of Pennsylvania Law Review Online (formerly known as PENNumbra)	<p>Debate contributions each 1,000 to 2,000 words without footnotes.</p> <p>Responses may be to any scholarly content printed by main law review in print, or in online journal. Responses should not exceed 4,500 words in main text and 2,000 words in footnotes.</p> <p>Preference for Essays that do not exceed 4,500 words in main text and 2,000 words in footnotes.</p>	<p>Debates on current controversies; responses to articles published in main law review; short essays.</p> <p>Debates consist of opening statement, rebuttal, closing statement by each side.</p> <p>Consult website for examples of essays.</p>	<p>Email directly to editor@pennlawreview.com</p> <p>As of 2/1/2022: “currently accepting submissions to Volume 10 (2021-2022) for publication”</p> <p>Include word count at top of manuscript, abstract and author’s CV.</p> <p>“Given our heavy annual publication load, it is the policy of the <i>University of Pennsylvania Law Review Online</i> to give significant consideration to submissions containing zip files of all cited sources.”</p>

Name of Online Journal	Word Count Limitations	Subject matter limitations, if any	Preferred article/essay submission method
Virginia Law Review Online	Generally about 6,000 to 9,000 words in length. No maximum word limited but pieces > 10,000 words accepted in exceptional cases only.	“any submission that would meaningfully contribute to academic legal discourse”	As of 2/1/22: “The <i>Virginia Law Review Online</i> is currently CLOSED for submissions.” Direct email to valawrev.online@gmail.com . Subject line should read "Online Submission." Times 11 or larger font. Microsoft Word format only.
California Law Review Online (Berkeley Law)	Blog posts = from 1,000 to 1,500 words Online essays = 3,000 to 10,000 words (not specified whether that includes footnotes). Response pieces = not more than 10,000 words (not specified whether that includes footnotes).	Blog posts for “brief and unique takes” Online essays for “pieces about recent issues” Response pieces respond to articles in print journal	Preference for pieces that emphasize a “California perspective” on matters before California state courts or applicable federal courts. Blog posts should have accessible tone and format. “A successful blog post not only provides a novel perspective on a current topic but also highlights the author’s voice.”

Name of Online Journal	Word Count Limitations	Subject matter limitations, if any	Preferred article/essay submission method
Duke Law Journal Online	None specified	None specified; current postings include review of article in print journal and online “symposium” on single topic with multiple contributors	email all manuscripts to dlj@law.duke.edu . As of 2/1/22: “The online department will review submissions on a rolling basis throughout the year until all slots for volume 71 are filled.” [Volume 71 would appear to be filled – ed.]
Michigan Law Review Online	Preference for submissions between 4,000 and 6,000 words, including footnotes.	Essays on “current areas of legal thought and research.”	Submit directly via email to mlr.online@umich.edu . As of 2/1/22: “The <i>Michigan Law Review Online</i> is currently open for submissions.”
Northwestern University Law Review Online	Preference for pieces 5k-9k words No submissions >12.5k words including footnotes	None specified	Scholastica Also accepts blog posts of 500 to 1,000 words. May direct questions to nulr.online@nlaw.northwestern.edu
Cornell Law Review Online	None specified	Essays, shorter articles, book reviews, and responses to articles, essays, and notes appearing in print edition	Scholastica Microsoft Word format required. May direct questions to Senior Online Editor Nitin Nainani at nrn27@cornell.edu . No word limit suggested

Name of Online Journal	Word Count Limitations	Subject matter limitations, if any	Preferred article/essay submission method
UCLA Law Review <i>Discourse</i>	3k-10k words Ideal submission are 3k-5k words	“articles that are timely, interdisciplinary, and novel”	As of 2/1/22: “Now accepting submissions for Volume 70” Manuscript + CV via direct email to lrdiscourse@lawnet.ucla.edu “ <i>Discourse</i> especially seeks to publish work from historically marginalized communities that is accessible to non-lawyers and individuals impacted by legal systems. <i>Discourse</i> invites essays, reflections, public remarks, and any non-traditional submissions, including submissions in languages other than English. <i>Discourse</i> strongly encourages authors to use person-first language in submissions.”
The Georgetown Law Journal Online	6k-10k words (including footnotes preferred), but longer and shorter pieces considered on case-by-case basis	Essays, responses to articles in print edition, book reviews, student notes	Submission via Scholastica preferred but can submit via email to geoljonline@gmail.com w subject line “Online Submission” Preference for “timely pieces focused on current events, current issues in the law, and pending and recently decided cases”

Name of Online Journal	Word Count Limitations	Subject matter limitations, if any	Preferred article/essay submission method
Texas Law Review Online Edition	None specified	Articles, book reviews, responses to material in main journal.	<p>Direct email to tlro@texasrev.com or Scholastica</p> <p>Submit book reviews to bookreviews@texasrev.com</p> <p>“We recommend that any submissions (complete drafts or abstracts) be sent via e-mail in the early spring because the next year’s volume is generally full by the beginning of the summer. We strongly prefer to receive electronic submissions that are uploaded as editable word documents (e.g., .doc or .docx rather than .pdf).”</p>
Vanderbilt Law Review <i>En Banc</i>	Book reviews should be between 4,000 and 10,000 words; otherwise no guidelines.	Roundtables (debates among academics and practitioners on cases pending before SCOTUS); responses to articles published in print or online journal; essays on contemporary legal issues; book reviews.	<p>Strongly prefer submissions via Scholastica. May also email to lawreview.enbanc@Vanderbilt.edu</p> <p>Must disclose any conflicts of interest, including personal or professional financial interests relevant to the subject.</p> <p>Microsoft Word submission preferred; footnotes not endnotes.</p> <p>As of 2/1/22: “We are seeking submissions for Book Reviews to be published in our online journal.</p>

Name of Online Journal	Word Count Limitations	Subject matter limitations, if any	Preferred article/essay submission method
Washington University Law Review Online	Submissions <15k words are considered "commentaries." Less than 7k will be considered for online series.	Op-eds; essays; commentary on legal developments; book reviews.	Scholastica or via email ce@wustlawreview.org Accepts commentary submissions on rolling basis year-round.
Southern California Law Review <i>Postscript</i>	6k-10k words	"We seek to publish a wide range of timely legal commentaries, response pieces, book reviews and student work."	No specific instructions given for Postscript submissions, but article submissions can be made via Scholastica, direct mail to the Executive Articles Editor at sclr.articles@lawmail.usc.edu or via snail mail to: Executive Articles Editor Southern California Law Review The Gould School of Law University of Southern California University Park Los Angeles, California 90089-0071
Boston University Law Review Online (formerly BULR Annex)	None specified	Symposia, essays, perspectives, and student notes	As of 2/1/22: "The submission period is currently closed for <i>Boston University Law Review Online</i> ." Submit to lawrev@bu.edu with CV