**Faculty RA Training - 50 State Surveys Handout**

1. Research Guides –
	1. <http://libguides.law.gsu.edu/50statesurveys>
	2. <http://tarltonguides.law.utexas.edu/content.php?pid=242166&sid=2028342>
2. Compiled 50 State Surveys
	1. Print –
		1. M.C. Chiorazzi & M. Most (eds.), Prestatehood Legal Materials: A Fifty-State Research Guide, including New York City and the District of Columbia, Hayworth Press: Binghamton, NY (2005).
		2. P.B. Linton, Abortion Under State Constitutions – A State by State Analysis (2d ed.), Carolina Academic Press: Durham, N.C (2012).
	2. Print/electronic versions –
		1. R.A. Leiter (ed.), National Survey of State Laws (6th ed.), The Gale Group: Farmington Hills, MI (2008). & WestlawNext -> Secondary Sources ->50 State Surveys -> 50 State Statutory Surveys
		2. C.R. Nyberg, Subject Compilations of State Laws, Carol Boast and Cheryl Nyberg: Twin Falls, ID (2008). Note: print ends in 2008 & Heinonline -> Subject Compilations of State Laws -> Database
		3. ALR and ALR Fed (print ) & WestlawNext and Lexis Advance
	3. Electronic –
		1. WestlawNext –-> Secondary Sources ->50 State Surveys -> 50 State Statutory Surveys; 50 State Regulatory Surveys
		2. Lexis.com -> 50 State Surveys
		3. BNA – (many of the online reporters have state compilations)
			1. ABA/BNA Lawyers’ Manual on Professional Conduct -> Ethics Opinions -> State Ethics Opinions
			2. Tax and Accounting Center -> State (tab) -> Tables, Charts and Lists (state)
	4. Internet –
		1. National Conference of State Legislatures ([http://www.ncsl.org](http://www.ncsl.org/))
3. Creating a 50 State Survey
	1. Strategy
		1. Do preliminary research on your topic.
		2. Look for a pre-compiled survey on the topic (even if incomplete).
		3. Determine what to compare and your search terms.
		4. Create your table.
		5. Determine what makes a good search (terms and connectors and good search terms) or use a print index.
		6. Work through your list of results for each state and fill in the table.
		7. Update your work.