

Core Grammar for Lawyers is an online self-instructional learning program that will give you practice in fundamental grammar conventions as well as advanced grammar issues that are specific to legal writing. The entire first year class will be participating in this program with the goal of ensuring that you will all be able to write proficiently in this course and in your work as a lawyer.

Below are the details as to how you will use Core Grammar for Lawyers:

1. Purchase a 1 year subscription for \$ 30.00. Go to: <https://www.cappress.com/coregrammar/purchase.php> and fill out the first page of the Purchase Form. Select “New York” for the state and “Hofstra Law School” for the school. On the second page (the payment page), there is a box that says "If you have an Access Code (optional), enter it here." Our Access Code is **HOFS2016**. After you enter this code and complete this page, the reduced pricing option of \$ 30.00 will appear. Complete the rest of the form, verify your information, and create your own username and password.
2. Activate your subscription. When you activate your subscription, enter this exact Class Code (which is unique to our section): **316-157-4462**. Do not borrow a Class Code from anyone else or you will enroll in the wrong section. If you have already purchased and activated your subscription, you may add your Class Code by going to “My Account” and selecting “Edit Account Information.” I will be able to monitor your work on this program through this Class Code.
3. Log-in at <http://coregrammarforlawyers.com>. Click on the link on the home page called, “Bookshelf,” and launch the Pre-Test. Do not opt out of the Pre-Test. **You must complete the Pre-Test prior to our class on August 30.** The Pre-Test has 96 questions and typically takes 45 – 75 minutes to complete. Do not consult outside resources when you take the Pre-Test.

Once you have taken the Pre-Test:

Regardless of how you score on the Pre-Test, try not to be too discouraged or too confident. The primary benefit of using Core Grammar for Lawyers is that, by engaging in the interactive lessons that are individually selected for you after the Pre-Test, you can advance your knowledge from whatever your starting point is. *One study of the program showed that law students who engaged in the lessons experienced, on average, over 20% improvement from their Pre-Test score to their highest Post-Test score.*

You are required to complete the lessons that are provided for you and then take the Post-Test when you are finished. There are 24 total lessons, but the program will automatically exempt you from lesson topics for which you score 100% on the Pre-Test.

Work on the lessons throughout the semester. Each lesson will take 20 – 40 minutes. **You must complete the lessons and the Post-Test no later than the last day of classes for the Fall semester, December 5. Failure to do so will result in a significant deduction from the Professionalism portion of your grade.**

How will Core Grammar impact my final grade?

You are required to take the Pre-Test, complete all of the 24 lessons that are provided to you (with the exception of ones on which you scored 100% on the pre-test), and complete the Post-Test (which you can take up to 8 times). There is no specific grade that you are required to obtain, but you must continue to take the Post-Test until you have received a higher score than you received on the Pre-Test. Realize, though, that all 1L students will be participating in this program with the hope that your grammar skills will be significantly enhanced by your participation. Any student who does not complete all aspects of the program as detailed in this section will have a significant deduction taken from their Professionalism grade.