

**WASHINGTON LAW REVIEW 2020-2021 MARIAN GOULD  
GALLAGHER SECOND-YEAR LAW STUDENT WRITE-ON  
PACKET**

*Take time to read this entire packet carefully. This packet supersedes all previous communications regarding the 2020–21 Marian Gould Gallagher Second-Year Law Student Write-On Competition for **Washington Law Review**.*

*Please note that submissions must be made **completely anonymous**.*

We are happy that you are participating in the *Washington Law Review*'s Winter Write-On Competition. This packet includes:

1. Competition Rules and Guidelines
2. Submission Checklist
3. Formatting Instructions
4. Submission Instructions
5. Diversity Statement
6. *Washington Law Review* Scoring Policy and Membership Requirements
7. *Washington Law Review* Personal Statement Prompt

If you have any other questions or concerns, please email [uwlaw.landersonwriteon@gmail.com](mailto:uwlaw.landersonwriteon@gmail.com).

## 2) COMPETITION RULES AND GUIDELINES

### Rules

**Rule 1.** Any violation of these rules—regardless of the perceived seriousness—subjects the violator to immediate disqualification, and a **mandatory** Honor Code referral. Academic honesty is one of the Law School’s highest values. Importantly, under the University of Washington Law School Honor Code:

**Sec. 2-201.** A student may not incorporate into work the student offers for . . . academic or professional benefit passages taken either word for word or in substance from work of another person unless the student credits the original author and identifies the original author’s work with quotation marks and footnotes or with an appropriate written explanation.

**Sec. 2-202.** A student may not offer for . . . academic or professional benefit as the student’s work any work prepared by another person. A student may not knowingly allow his or her own work to be offered for . . . academic or professional benefit by another person except insofar as group submissions have been authorized and the identity of all students and the participation of each has been disclosed as required by the instructor or person in charge.

**Sec. 2-204.** A student may not offer for . . . academic or professional benefit work prepared in collaboration with another person unless the student secures the written permission of the . . . person in charge in advance of submission.

Disciplinary sanctions imposed for Honor Code violations include disciplinary warning, disciplinary reprimand, restitution, disciplinary probation, suspension, and dismissal from the law school. Each sanction may need to be reported at the time you seek admission to the bar. Please review the Honor Code: <http://www.law.washington.edu/Students/Academics/HonorCode.aspx>

**Rule 2. You may *not* discuss your personal statement with others or receive any outside assistance. The exceptions to this rule are office hours discussions with the *WLR* Winter Write-On representative.** You may not discuss the personal statement component, even generally, with any person, including, but not limited to: students, law school faculty and staff, family members, friends, colleagues, and attorneys. **Do not have anyone edit or proofread your paper.** Note that this rule is stricter than Sec. 2-204 cl. 3 (not included above) of the University of Washington Law School Honor Code, which would normally allow outside assistance in proofreading.

Anyone found to have violated the above will be automatically disqualified from the competition and subject to a **mandatory** Honor Code referral, as detailed in Competition Rule 1.

**Rule 3. You may not use any other computer software** to assist with style or citation form, including, but not limited to, *Lexis for Microsoft Office*, *Westlaw*’s citation generator, online citation checkers, or any other citation resource other than *The Bluebook* and this packet.

Any violation of this rule automatically disqualifies the violator from the competition and subjects them to a **mandatory** Honor Code referral, as detailed in Rule 1.

## 2) SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

- Comment (10-15 pages)
- Comment Addendum

The Comment Addendum is required for Comments under 10 pages. This should be 1-2 paragraphs outlining the applicant's plan to expand the paper to a final Comment length of 15-20 pages. Comment submissions 10 pages or more may include an addendum explaining the plan to expand the paper if you think this is not clear from the submission. Again, this is not required if the submission is 10 or more pages.

- Personal Statement

## 3) FORMATTING INSTRUCTIONS

Papers that do not strictly comply with the following format requirements may be penalized.

1. **Spacing:** All papers must be double-spaced.
3. **Margins:** All margins (top, bottom, left, and right) must be one inch. Papers should be left justified.
4. **Length:** Your Comment submission should be approximately 10-15 pages in length, including footnotes. *WLR* will accept submissions less than 10 pages, but such submissions must be accompanied by a Comment Addendum that briefly (1-2 paragraphs) outlines your plan to expand the paper to Comment length (15-20 pages). Your submission will be graded based on quality, *not quantity*.
5. **Font:** All papers must use Times New Roman, 12-point font.
6. **Page Numbering:** Each page must be numbered. Page numbers may appear anywhere on the page and may appear within the margins.
7. **Citations:** Citations should follow the rules contained in the **white pages** of the 21st edition of the Bluebook. If you do not have access to the 21st edition of the Bluebook, please notify us and we will provide you access.
8. **Identifying Information:** All submitted materials will be automatically marked with a computer-generated number when they are submitted. You do not need to add an anonymous number to your submissions. **Do not put your name on anything.**

## 4) SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Verify that your name is not featured anywhere on anything you are submitting.
2. Submissions must be received by 11:59 p.m. (Pacific Time) on Tuesday December 22, 2020. Late submissions will NOT be accepted unless an extension has been approved prior to the submission deadline. It is your responsibility to read and understand the formatting and submission instructions beforehand so you can submit on time and in the proper format. Do not wait until the last minute.

3. Submit all application material to [uwlaw.landerson@uw.edu](mailto:uwlaw.landerson@uw.edu). All application material should be submitted in Word Document format. Please attach separate files for your personal statement and Comment/Note submissions.

## **5) DIVERSITY STATEMENT**

*Washington Law Review* embraces diversity as part of our commitment to furthering an inclusive community. Perspectives informed by cultural, ethnic, racial, religious, and other identities as well as daily lived experiences encourage us to learn from each other, collaborate more effectively, and respect and appreciate our differences. We are also committed to supporting, participating, and partnering with others in efforts to make the legal profession diverse and inclusive. Furthermore, these perspectives allow each of the journals to pursue excellence in our respective publications, leadership, international culture, and the way in which we engage with the legal and scholarly communities.

## 6) WASHINGTON LAW REVIEW COMMENT SCORING POLICY AND MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Comment Submission	70%
Personal Statement	30%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

### COMMENT SCORING RUBRIC (70% of total score)

#### I. ANALYSIS: 50%

- a. Introduction:
  - i. Has the author effectively identified and clearly stated the topic?
  - ii. Has the author indicated a result?
  - iii. Has the author given an overview of the paper?
- b. Discussion of the Issues:
  - i. Has the author effectively discussed legal and policy issues?
  - ii. Has the author effectively discussed and distinguished counter-arguments (where relevant)?
  - iii. Has the author effectively drawn analogies to sources?
- c. Use of Authority:
  - i. Does the author support every legal assertion with a citation to proper authority?
  - ii. Has the author used the material effectively, in a way that accurately reflects the substance of the respective authority (e.g. not taking quotes out of context)?
  - iii. Has the author used a variety of sources?
- d. Organization:
  - i. Has the author used persuasive headings to advance the argument?
  - ii. Is there a thorough background section that effectively sets up the analysis?
  - iii. Is each argument discussed separately?
  - iv. Is the analysis arranged logically?
  - v. Are the ideas in each argument fully developed?
  - vi. Has the author incorporated effective topic sentences and transitions?
  - vii. Does the conclusion summarize and logically organize the arguments?
- e. Persuasiveness:
  - i. Did the author's characterization of authority (positive and negative) advance the author's position?
  - ii. Is the argument consistent? Has the author identified and explained any logical inconsistencies?
- f. Novelty:
  - i. Is the topic or argument novel?

#### II. GRAMMAR, STYLE, AND PROOFREADING: 20%

- a. Is the paper properly formatted?
- b. Has the author used plain English using clear, concise language?
- c. Has the author used objective tone?
- d. Has the author used active voice?
- e. Has the author used correct punctuation and spelling (no typos)?

#### III. CITATIONS: 30%

- a. Has the author correctly cited according to the Bluebook WHITEPAGES conventions for law review articles?

**IV. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS**

- a. Journal members must draft a high-quality journal Note or Comment within fourteen months of accepting an invitation to become a candidate for *Washington Law Review*.
- b. Members must complete 180 hours of administrative and/or editing work for *Washington Law Review* after completing their second year of law school, but prior to graduation.
- c. You should **not** apply for membership if you are unable or unwilling to meet these requirements.

## 7) 2020–21 PERSONAL STATEMENT PROMPT

### 1,500 word limit

*Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma—anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution. Please include how your diverse perspectives and/or background contributed to the way you worked through the problem.*

### Please note:

- *DO NOT EMAIL YOUR PERSONAL STATEMENT TO ANYONE, including individual journals, journal members, or the write-on committee.*
- *Please follow the submission instructions included in this packet.*

### Instructions:

- Please answer the following personal statement prompt.
- **Please do not exceed the maximum limit of 1,500 words.**
- **Do not put your name on your personal statement or anywhere else on your submission.** Leaving your name on any part of your submission will result in an automatic disqualification.
- Do not seek external help on your submission, including any sort of editing help from anyone.
- While you are not forbidden from doing outside research in answering these personal statement prompts, it is not necessary. We would prefer to hear about your personal experiences than anything drawn from external sources. If you cite to outside sources, you are not required to put them in proper Bluebook form.
- Plagiarism is not permitted. The UW Law School Honor Code applies to the entirety of the write-on competition, including the personal statement(s).

Please note the 1,500 word limit is the **maximum word limit**. You are by no means expected to reach the word count. *WLR* will be evaluating *quality over quantity*. The purpose of giving a large word limit is to allow room for each person to express themselves. That said, if you are satisfied with your submission, even if it is well below the word count, please understand a shorter statement will not count against you. **Do not feel like you need to write more simply to meet the word count.**