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Law Library Blog (August 2018): Legal Beagle's Blog Archive

Roger Williams University School of Law

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Legal Beagle's Post

August 1, 2018

Do Not Be Alarmed: No One Stole the Cheese Off Your Pizza!



This summer the Legal Beagle has been trying and writing about different types of quintessential Rhode Island foods. This week's Rhode Island staple being discussed is a pizza strip.

Sometimes called a party pizza, a bakery pizza, or a tomato pie, these tasty treats are often found at barbecues, parties, and bakeries all over the Ocean State. For those of you who have not tried our regional delicacy, they are "[rectangular slices of focaccia-style bread topped with spicy tomato sauce. They have no cheese \(unless you count an optional sprinkling of grated Romano\) and are properly served at room temperature.](#)" Some believe they are an Americanization of [Cudduruni from Lentini](#) while others see them as a [predecessor to modern pizza](#) as we know it stating, "Pizza strips are a comfort food that probably predates what we now think of as pizza. Food historians trace pizza's origins to Naples, Italy, in the 1800s, and note that it wasn't until 1889 that cheese was added as a topping. A pizza without cheese is today recognized as one of the three official authentic Neapolitan pizzas and is called pizza marinara."

However pizza strips developed into being, they are indeed here and part of the fabric of our state's cuisine. While other areas of the East Coast have them, or their cousin [scachatta](#), there are likely most ubiquitous in Rhode Island. And you can even [get them delivered](#) to your door!

If you want to venture out this summer and try pizza strips, [this list from Yelp](#) is for you! Buon appetito!

August 3, 2018

Jump Start Your Law School Studies



[Merriam-Webster dictionary](#) says that “jump start” means to bring fresh or renewed energy to something. That is a great way of thinking about the start (or return) to school!

As summer is winding down and the school year is winding up, here are four RWU resources to consider as you jump start your semester:

- Our [study aids guide](#) collection is revamped, updated, and full of helpful resources, both in print and online, for your use.
- The library's guide on [Stress Management, Mindfulness, and Wellness](#) is another resource to support your self-care and for learning about wellness resources available on campus.
- One way to keep on top of the start of the semester is by following the library on social media! The library has a [website](#), this [blog](#), a [Facebook](#) page, a [Twitter](#) account, an [Instagram](#) account, and a [Pinterest](#) page. We communicate our information in many ways to connect the library with our students, faculty, and alumni.

- Whether you want to jump start or jump rope, the [RWU Recreation Center](#) is a great place to burn off some energy or join a group exercise class!

Stop by the reference desk to speak with a librarian or email us at lawlibraryhelp@rwu.edu.

August 10, 2018

Basics of Boolean for Legal Research



Sometimes when the law librarians mention Boolean searching in legal research classes they get confused and scared looks. If they rephrase it and say terms and connectors searching they get some confused looks, but not as many scared faces. However, you probably have been using elements of Boolean searching your whole life, even if you didn't realize it at the time. If you [put quotes around a phrase](#) to limit your results in Google, you are practicing the most commonly used Boolean searching technique! Whether you call it Boolean searching or terms and connectors searching (or you really don't have a name for it), the concept is important and not at all terrifying!

The first step to searching for documents on an unknown topic when you don't have a citation to start from is to come up with words, phrases, and synonyms. These would be the terms.

The second step is to figure out how to make a statement using the words “and”, “or”, and “not” in the search box with these terms in order to maximize efficiency. The words “And”, “Or”, and “Not” are the connectors.

Once you have the hang of those connectors, you can start using different ones to increase your proficiency at legal research! For example, see [/p in Westlaw](#) and [W/3 in Lexis](#)!

The Legal Beagle's all-time favorite video which explains Boolean searching is called "[What the Heck is Boolean Searching](#)" and is an absolute gem!

August 17, 2018

Welcome (Back)!



The [RWU Law Library staff](#) extends a warm welcome to our incoming 1Ls and returning 2Ls and 3Ls.

Our collection and services are here to complement and advance the scholarship, practice skills education, and intellectual life at RWU Law. We have a [website](#), [blog](#), [Facebook](#) page, [Twitter](#) account, [Instagram](#) account, and [Pinterest](#) page. We communicate our information in many ways to connect the library with our students, faculty, and alumni.

There are the many ways in which the RWU School of Law Library can help you have a successful academic year. Our knowledgeable, friendly, service-oriented staff are available to assist you in using our various services and resources that include:

- Legal and non-legal research assistance in-person, via [Ask a Librarian](#), by [email](#), or by calling 401-254-4547;

- [RWU LawGuides](#) covering a wide-variety of topics;
- [Guides on Study Aids](#) for the 1L and upper-class curriculum;
- The [interlibrary loan](#) service to obtain an item not held at the [RWU libraries](#);
- [Study rooms](#);
- [Printing and copying](#);
- [Wireless printing](#);
- The [WebCatalog](#) to locate items in our collection and online;
- Access to [digital resources](#) on and [off](#) campus;
- Instruction on legal research and technology by our librarians;

and

- Westlaw, Lexis Advance, and Bloomberg training. (Check the [Law Library Computer Classroom/Events Schedule](#) for programming dates and times).

The library is a great place to research and study. It is also a great place to chill out and de-stress. If you have any questions or just need a helping hand in the first few weeks, stop by and say hi!

August 24, 2018

ResearchFest: Because Knowledge IS Power!



ResearchFest: Because Knowledge IS Power!

Although students learn about Lexis and Westlaw in Legal Practice courses, a variety of specialized tools in those systems and other digital resources can make you a more effective law student, researcher, and practitioner. ResearchFest provides an opportunity for students and faculty to discover several research platforms and resources to add to their list of research

essentials. During the event, you can meet with representatives for these resources as they demonstrate how to use their tools for legal research.

Join us for this fun and informative event.

Wednesday, August 29
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
RWU Law Library

Resources represented include:

- [Fastcase](#), a nationwide law library, including case law, statutes, regulations, court rules, and constitutions, and law review articles (through a partnership with HeinOnline!);
- [Lexis](#), a legal research tool for online legal research, including the legal analytics tool Ravel;
- [Lexis Digital Library](#), a service by LexisNexis and OverDrive® that offers access to the largest collection of authoritative legal eBook content on all major mobile devices and desktop platforms;
- [ProQuest](#), a key source for locating Congressional materials;
- [Social Law Library](#), one of the largest legal-research institutions in the country which provides research materials, training, and continuing education throughout Massachusetts;
- [TR Westlaw](#), an interactive computer assisted legal research service;
- [Rhode Island State Law Library](#), the state's public law library, which provides reference and research services for members of the Rhode Island bench and bar. The library shares its catalog with the RWU Law Library and RWU Law students and faculty may also apply for borrowing privileges at the library; and
- [Roger Williams University Library](#), Sue McMullen from the University Library will be here to demonstrate campus-wide digital resources provided by the University Library.

You may even grab a slice of pizza and see demos from the Law Librarians on tools for law study, career research, and more. You don't want to miss it!

Participation allows you to enter to win great prizes, snacks, and giveaways!

August 31, 2018

Directed Research Help Available Now!



If you are writing your directed research paper this semester, remember the library. The library has resources for the brainstorming (topic selection) and research phases (topic development) of the writing process. However, some might say the best resource we have for students starting a directed research project is our staff!

One of the services that the library provides is individualized research consultations with students working on a directed research paper. These sessions can be scheduled in Providence or Bristol and are focused on developing research strategies based on your individual needs. Also, most of our librarians keep candy in their offices!

The librarians meet with students on how to select and narrow a topic. We are happy to listen to your writing project proposal and also discuss research strategies as well as topic preemption concerns. You may know that librarians love reading, but they also love writing, too!

Furthermore, we encourage patrons to meet with Justin Kishbaugh, the RWU School of Law's Writing Specialist. If you are interested in scheduling a writing consultation, he can be reached at jkishbaugh@rwu.edu.

Basic information on selecting a topic can be found on our page [TimeSaver: Selecting a Topic](#). Information on legal research and writing can be found on our page [TimeSaver: Legal Research and Writing](#). Information on topic development and preemption can be found in our [LawGuide for Law Review](#).

To schedule a research consultation with a law librarian, contact us via [Ask a Librarian](#), by email to LawLibraryHelp@rwu.edu, or by calling 401-254-4547.