

ASPIRALAW ACADEMIC CONSULT

Theme: *Mastering the Art of Legal Research & Writing* (COHORT I)

1.0 About the Clinic

The AspiraLaw Research & Writing Clinic is a one-day intensive, practice-oriented training programme/workshop designed to significantly enhance the research and writing capacity of law students, aspiring legal practitioners, and early-career researchers. Built around the theme ***Mastering the Art of Legal Research and Writing***, the clinic is deliberately structured to move participants beyond surface-level competence and mechanical drafting toward disciplined, analytical, and professional-grade legal scholarship.

The programme seeks to bridge the persistent gap between academic theory and practical application by immersing participants in the art and science of legal reasoning, structured analysis, and persuasive legal communication. It emphasizes not only *what* to write, but *how* to think, research, organise, and present legal ideas with clarity and authority. Through guided instruction, hands-on exercises, and practical demonstrations, participants will develop the methodological rigour, analytical discipline, and drafting precision required to produce clear, coherent, and defensible legal work across academic and professional contexts.

At the heart of the clinic lies a firm commitment to improving participants' ability to think, write, and reason like lawyers. Carefully designed modules will expose participants to the full research and writing cycle, including issue identification, legal analysis, effective use of authorities, argument development, and structured writing/drafting. Participants will learn how to interpret and analyse legal problems, conduct focused and efficient legal research, synthesise sources, and

produce scholarly and professional legal documents that meet accepted academic, institutional, and practice standards.

The sessions will be highly interactive and experiential, combining guided discussions, peer review sessions, writing/drafting exercises, and real-time feedback. Participants will actively engage with practical problems and writing tasks under the supervision of distinguished facilitators with strong academic and professional expertise in legal research and writing. This hands-on approach ensures that learning outcomes are immediately transferable, equipping participants with practical tools, tested frameworks, and sustainable habits necessary for long-term excellence in legal research and writing.

2.0 Key Learning Areas

Participants will be taken through a comprehensive and experiential learning process covering the following areas:

- i. Fundamentals of Legal Research** – understanding legal sources, research methods, and effective research strategies.
- ii. Building Strong Legal Arguments** – issue analysis, application of legal principles, and constructing persuasive reasoning.
- iii. How to Write Like a Lawyer** – structure, clarity, precision, and the art of persuasive legal communication.
- iv. Forms and Styles of Legal Writing** – case briefs, essays, memos, opinions, and other core legal writing formats.
- v. Using References the Right Way** – proper use of citations, footnotes, and referencing systems (OSCOLA).
- vi. Helpful Tools and Materials** – essential digital tools, research platforms, and resources for continuous improvement.

vii. **Common Pitfalls in Legal Writing and How to Avoid Them** – Identifying and overcoming common grammatical, structural, and analytical errors.

3.0 Who Should Attend

This clinic is carefully curated for:

- i. Undergraduate and postgraduate law students seeking to improve their legal writing and research skills.
- ii. Aspiring law school (LL.B) candidates preparing for academic and professional rigour.
- iii. Legal researchers and academic writers seeking to refine analytical and scholarly writing skills.
- iv. Paralegals and young legal professionals aiming to enhance their document drafting, analytical, and presentation abilities.

4.0 Benefits of Participation

- i. Participants in the AspiraLaw Research & Writing Clinic will gain both immediate and long-term benefits, including:
- ii. Certificate of Participation recognizing successful completion of the programme.
- iii. Access to Curated Materials and Templates, including sample research papers, briefs, and memos.
- iv. Mentorship and Networking Opportunities with legal academics, practitioners, and peers.
- v. Enhanced Academic and Professional Competence, positioning participants to stand out in academic research, moot court, and practice settings.

vi. Complimentary Ongoing Consultation, granting participants continued access to expert guidance and advisory support on legal research, writing projects, and academic inquiries long after the programme has ended.

5.0 Programme Overview

Facilitator	Theme	Modules Covered	Session Focus	Duration Breakdown
Benjamin Tachie-Antiedu, Esq.	Laying the Foundations of Legal Research & Reasoning	1. Fundamentals of Legal Research 2. Building Strong Legal Arguments	<p>This session establishes the core competencies required for effective legal inquiry. Participants will learn how to identify, evaluate, and apply legal sources; develop sound research methodologies; and transform preliminary findings into coherent and persuasive legal arguments.</p> <p>Emphasis is placed on issue identification, legal</p>	3 Hours 8:30AM-11:30AM Break: 30 Mins

			principle extraction, analytical application, and building logically structured reasoning frameworks.	
Irene Ansa-Asare Horsham,	Mastering Legal Writing Structure, Style & Referencing Excellence	3. How to Write Like a Lawyer 4. Forms and Styles of Legal Writing 5. Using References the Right Way	This session equips participants with the core writing skills required for professional legal communication. It covers structured writing techniques, analytical clarity, and the discipline of precise language. Participants will explore the technical demands of case briefs, legal essays, memos, and opinion writing. A dedicated component on referencing strengthens their ability to use OSCOLA, footnotes, endnotes, and	3 Hours 12:00PM-3:00PM Break: 30 Mins

			citation ethics, ensuring accuracy, credibility, and scholarly integrity in all written works.	
Derick Ohemeng- Mensah., PhD(Cand)	Advanced Tools, Practical Competence & Quality Control in Legal Writing	6. Helpful Tools and Materials 7. Common Pitfalls in Legal Writing and How to Avoid Them	<p>This session focuses on improving long-term writing performance through modern digital tools, research platforms, and productivity systems. Participants will receive guided exposure to advanced legal research databases, writing-enhancement applications, and structured drafting techniques. The session will also address common grammatical, analytical, structural, and citation-related errors, providing practical strategies</p>	3 Hours 3:30PM- 6:30PM

			to identify and eliminate weaknesses in legal writing.	-END-
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6.0 Programme Objectives

By the end of the clinic, participants will be able to:

- i. Conduct structured and purposeful legal research using appropriate methodologies and sources.
- ii. Apply analytical reasoning to identify, interpret, and resolve legal issues.
- iii. Develop logical and persuasive arguments in line with academic and professional standards.
- iv. Reference and cite authorities accurately using OSCOLA and related citation systems.
- v. Produce clear, coherent, and well-organized legal documents, including briefs, essays, and memos.
- vi. Edit, proofread, and present legal writing that reflects professionalism, clarity, and originality.

7.0 Resource Materials

Each participant will receive access to exclusive materials curated to reinforce the learning experience, including:

- i. Comprehensive workshop slides and reading materials
- ii. OSCOLA citation guide and referencing templates
- iii. Sample case briefs, essays, and research papers

- iv. Recommended texts and online research databases
- v. Access to AspiraLaw's digital repository of academic resources

8.0 About the Facilitators

i. Derick Ohemeng-Mensah, D.S.E.F., B.A (Hons)., LL.B (London)., LL.M (London), C.Med., MCIArb., PhD (Cand).

Derick Ohemeng-Mensah is a distinguished academic, adjudicator, and governance specialist with expertise in legal theory, jurisprudence, corporate governance, and alternative dispute resolution. He lectures at the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA), delivering industry-focused instruction in commercial law, governance, and ADR. He previously lectured at the University of Ghana Business School for over a decade, significantly shaping academic discourse and mentoring thousands of students.

Ohemeng-Mensah studied at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) and later earned his LL.B and LL.M from the University of Westminster, London. He is currently a PhD student at the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA), specialising in governance, institutional accountability, and organisational ethics. A Chartered Mediator and Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (MCIArb), he has adjudicated complex commercial and corporate disputes and is widely respected for his fairness, analytical rigour, and sound judgment.

As Principal Consultant at AspiraLaw Academic Consult, he leads curriculum development, research initiatives, and capacity-building programmes aimed at strengthening legal education and professional competence. His intellectual

depth, strategic leadership, and sustained commitment to mentorship position him as an influential voice in legal scholarship, governance, and ADR practice.

His session delivers a practical, technology-enabled approach to strengthening long-term writing performance. Participants will engage with modern digital research tools, writing-enhancement applications, and structured drafting systems. The session also addresses common grammatical, analytical, structural, and citation errors, providing clear, actionable strategies to identify and remedy weaknesses in legal writing.

ii. Irene Ansa-Asare Horsham, LL.B., QCL., MBA., LL.M., PhD(c)

Irene Ansa-Asare Horsham is a visionary legal practitioner, institutional strategist, and governance expert whose career spans law, governance and higher education management. With over 20 years of leadership in policy consulting, institutional reform, and advocacy, Irene is regarded as a powerful voice in reimagining African higher education and regulatory systems for long-term impact.

She currently serves as Lead Consultant at Horsham Education and Consulting Ltd, a Ghana-based governance & strategy firm supporting institutions across public, private and international development sectors. In 2020, Irene made history as the youngest person appointed head of a tertiary institution in Ghana when she assumed leadership of MountCrest University College — a testament to her trailblazing leadership and her commitment to reimagining education for the next generation. At MountCrest, Irene has spearheaded comprehensive institutional reforms across academic quality, governance structures, stakeholder relations, and strategic planning, positioning the university for a new era of innovation and relevance.

A pioneering figure in the legal fraternity, Irene was the first African woman to practice as a barrister on the Wales and Chester Circuit of the Bar of England and Wales. She was also admitted to the Ghana Bar in 2004. Irene is currently a doctoral candidate at the University of Bath pursuing a DBA in Higher Education Management, focused on social innovation and legal education reform. She has earned other academic credentials including an LL.M in International Commercial Law (specialising in Comparative Corporate Governance) and an MBA, both from Cardiff University. She also holds an LLB Law degree from the University of Leicester.

Irene is the creator of “UNAPOLOGETIC: Musings of an Educated African Woman”, a bold and culturally rooted platform that reflects her commitment to voice, equity, and leadership. A dynamic public speaker and writer, Irene integrates thought leadership with grounded institutional practice, drawing from a personal and professional journey that bridges local insights with global standards.

Her session bridges theoretical knowledge and practical writing techniques essential for both academia and practice.

iii. Benjamin Tachie-Antiedu, BSc., CPA., LL.B., QCL., MBA., LL.M

Benjamin Tachie Antiedu, is a distinguished Ghanaian lawyer, legal author and parliamentary professional with extensive experience in legal research, legislative processes and statutory interpretation. Over the course of his career in the Parliamentary Service of Ghana, he has provided expert support to parliamentary committees, contributed to the refinement of Bills and subsidiary legislation and advised Members of Parliament on procedure, drafting and constitutional compliance.

He is the author of three notable books that have contributed significantly to public legal education and Ghana's legislative practice. They are: Reading the Law; Parliamentary Language in Ghana: The Citizen's Guide; and Subsidiary Legislation in Ghana: Principles, Practice and Procedure

Benjamin's expertise spans legal writing, legislative drafting, judicial language, governance processes and parliamentary administration. His works and professional practice demonstrate a unique ability to simplify complex legal concepts while maintaining analytical rigour and doctrinal accuracy.

As a facilitator, he offers highly practical training in legal writing and legislative communication, drawing on real-world examples from court processes, statutory interpretation and parliamentary practice. His presentations are structured, engaging and tailored to the needs of legal practitioners, public officers, students, and governance professionals.

Benjamin Tachie Antiedu, Esq., stands out as a committed scholar-practitioner dedicated to improving the quality of legal and parliamentary discourse in Ghana.

9.0 Programme Fees

- **Students (Including Recent LL.B Graduates): GHS300.00**
- **Non-Students / Professionals: GHS500.00**

The fees cover participation in all sessions, learning materials, and a Certificate of Participation upon successful completion.

10.0 Programme Date and Venue

Date: Saturday 24th January 2026

Time: 7:30 AM

Venue: To Be Announced

11.0 Contact and Registration

For enquiries, and or registration, kindly contact:

✉ **Email:** aspiralawacademicconsult@gmail.com

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☞ Organizer: **AspiraLaw Academic Consult- 2026 EDITION**

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