I will post the syllabus by Aug 21st – no textbook to buy.

**August 25th Assignment**

**Browse**

- [http://libraryguides.missouri.edu/startuplaw](http://libraryguides.missouri.edu/startuplaw)
- [http://libraryguides.missouri.edu/c.php?g=557238&p=3832226](http://libraryguides.missouri.edu/c.php?g=557238&p=3832226)

Your major assignment for the semester is to prepare a guide similar in format to the examples above on a legal practice area or legal topic of interest. Begin to think what area of law you might want to explore for this project. I will offer suggestions in class for choosing a topic and assist if you need help finding one.

**Browse**

- [http://www.law.missouri.edu/library/resources/](http://www.law.missouri.edu/library/resources/)

Briefly test drive three databases that look useful to you other than the study aids, Bloomberg Law, Lexis, and Westlaw. Note your first impressions (likes and dislikes) for discussion in class.

Please email your responses to the following questions to me [diamondrj@missouri.edu](mailto:diamondrj@missouri.edu) by 5pm, Wed. Aug 23rd.

- How would you tout your research skills to a prospective employer? Describe your particular strengths. Share examples if you like.

- What do you need from this course to improve your research skills?

- Assign me a hard research question. The harder the better! Fine for your question to come from
  - a course assignment
  - a journal, competition, or other academic activity
  - a faculty research assistant assignment
  - a particularly taxing, factually dense or factually bereft work assignment, given without much guidance, direction, or prospect of finding a semblance of a reasonable answer (the kind of question that left you momentarily, or longer, hating legal research)
  - a legal issue in the news that peaks your interest
  - a family member, friend, or acquaintance or some other source

I bill by the hour, but this one’s on the house. Fire away!