Building Grit, Tenacity, and Perseverance While Teaching Legal Research
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Kristina L. Niedringhaus (Georgia State University College of Law) and Carolyn Broering-Jacobs (Cleveland-Marshall College of Law)

After the program, please visit http://lawlibrary.gsu.edu/grit/ for a list of ideas for promoting grit in the classroom.

SELECTED ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY


Project initiated by Bobbi Liebenberg, the Chair of the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession, designed to educate female attorneys about grit and growth mindsets. Includes a webinar and links to relevant sources. Includes a toolkit for law schools and law firms, with resources to assess, teach, and learn these traits.


Article in which Duckworth and her research partners describe the development and testing of their grit scale and share the results of studies aimed at evaluating why some people accomplish more than others of equal intelligence. Studies described include association of grit with (1) undergraduate GPA at an elite university, (2) retention of cadets at West Point, and (3) success in the Scripps National Spelling Bee.


A short article describing how grit has been measured, explaining some of the authors’ findings related to grit, and identifying directions for future research. The authors note that they cannot make concrete recommendations for fostering grit at this stage in the research.


In this six-minute TED Talk, Angela Duckworth succinctly explains her theory of grit as a predictor of success.
This website is a repository for much of Angela Duckworth’s work on grit and self-control. The website includes links to various articles and other works on grit and also includes several different grit tests.


*Report defines and explains academic tenacity – working hard and smart for an extended period of time; identifies and explains psychological interventions that can improve academic tenacity; and describes how teachers and schools and integrate teaching methods that will produce greater academic tenacity.*


*The report examines the notion that grit, tenacity, and perseverance are both malleable and teachable, and looks toward how technology might be leveraged in teaching these skills. The report both defines the contours of grit, tenacity, and perseverance, and then describes how each is and might be measured. It then describes how learning environments, including digital learning environments, can be designed to promote grit, tenacity, and perseverance.*


*An important discussion about the problems associated with placing too much weight on grit while not appreciating other influences on an individual’s success. Cautions that groups that are faced with negative influences such as poverty, socio-economic status and racism should not be judged as not being gritty.*


*This blog post lays out some of the arguments regarding whether or not grit can be taught. There are schools who are retraining teachers to encourage grit and tenacity through struggle and a growth mindset. Critics say that grit is merely the latest fad and that kids today are just as gritty as kids from previous generations.*

*This article describes many specific techniques for teaching metacognitive awareness in legal research classes. Additionally, the article advocates for teaching metacognition during the 1L year to increase student performance and successful skill transfer throughout law school and beyond.*


*This important work teaches students (and faculty) how law students can improve their learning and metacognition through techniques designed to help students progress through the self-regulated learning cycle. Professor Schwartz argues that students who are aware of their progress through cognitive levels can learn how to be expert learners.*


*In this book that spent more than a year on the New York Times Bestseller Lists, Paul Tough argues that character has a greater impact than intelligence on success in school and life. Tough summarizes relevant research in psychology and neuroscience, while also offering many examples of educators taking noncognitive approaches to helping students succeed.*