



Helping students apply the  
rule of law to specific scenarios  
with *PracticePerfect*<sup>™</sup>



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## SUMMARY

Looking to incorporate asynchronous learning technology into his Civil Procedure course, one educator found *PracticePerfect* to be an ideal study tool to help students apply the rule of law to specific scenarios via videos and follow-up quizzes.

## Background

In 2020, when classes moved from in person to online due to the pandemic, former Dean, [Professor John C. Brittain](#) made a request to the university to purchase *PracticePerfect* for his students, as a way to make up for any shortcomings they would experience from remote learning. Brittain felt that, “*PracticePerfect* was a good form of asynchronous learning, with a beneficial combination of video and audio learning, followed up by quizzes.” In 2022, students returned to the classroom, and Brittain continued to incorporate *PracticePerfect* as a key part of his course.

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– *Professor John C. Brittain,*  
*University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law*

### EDUCATOR

John C. Brittain

### SCHOOL

[University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law, Washington, DC](#)

### COURSE

Civil Procedure

### COURSE MATERIALS

*Civil Procedure: A Coursebook* by Glannon, Perlman, and Raven-Hansen with *PracticePerfect*

## Implementation

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Brittain group-taught Civil Procedure with two other professors, each with their own sections. All students were assigned *PracticePerfect* work to complete on their own. Each professor monitored participation and followed up by going over some of the quiz questions, showing selected video clips, and using the content as a launchpad for discussion. Says Brittain, “We thought it was an excellent technology learning method.”

During class time, Brittain will frequently show a video clip from *PracticePerfect* and go over certain parts of the video. Says Brittain, “It’s one thing to give a rule about damages, it’s another thing to ask a question about the rule, but it’s a third thing to ask how a rule would apply, given a specific scenario, as shown in *PracticePerfect* videos.” Brittain will often call on students to talk through an answer.

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Brittain does not award points for the completion of *PracticePerfect* quizzes, although he is considering doing so. Even without points, student usage is high. Occasionally Brittain uses a *PracticePerfect* quiz question on the final exam, and this is more than enough motivation for his students to complete their work. Brittain encourages his students to take the quizzes as if they were sitting for an exam, and to wait until the end of the quiz to see the answers and explanations.



## Impact

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Says Brittain, “*PracticePerfect* has had the impact of giving students a basic presentation of their course materials by reinforcing the textbook reading. It offers a summative way of taking what students learned in cases and turning it into questions they can use for application and review. It’s like being in a study session.”

Brittain notes his students have jumped at the opportunity for practice questions, and indeed, *PracticePerfect* multiple choice questions are similar to questions that will show up on exams and ultimately, the Multistate Bar Examination. “Students tell me that they like watching the *PracticePerfect* videos because,” as Brittain jokes, “it beats hearing my voice.”

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## Conclusion

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Shares Brittain, “Part of my background as a law professor includes a background in fighting for civil rights. I appreciate how *PracticePerfect* uses a lot of diversity in its animations and questions. It’s important.”

Over the past two years, Brittain has immersed himself in classes at his university’s center for advanced learning to become fully certified in teaching online through the school’s learning management system. Although Brittain initially used *PracticePerfect* when classes went online due to the pandemic, he has continued to use it as classes have resumed in person because he believes in its value to students.





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