EDITORIAL POLICY AND GUIDELINES FOR AUTHORS

Crescent University Law Journal (CRULJ) is an annual publication, dedicated to research into all law subjects including law practice and policy. It is a peer-reviewed journal with a mission to be essential reading for law academics, practitioners, researchers, and law students at both the first degree and post graduate levels.

The Journal welcomes articles, case studies, notes, comments, and book reviews, subject to the following guidelines:

1. Articles should illuminate law issues from any area of the law, law policy and development, alternative dispute resolution, and legislative procedure and studies.
2. Articles and case studies should not exceed 12,000 words in length. Exceptionally, where the nature of the topic warrants it, the Editorial Committee will be prepared to consider longer articles and case studies. All articles and case studies should include a word count (including footnotes) on the title page.
3. The Editorial Committee also welcomes the submission of shorter notes and comments of up to 3000 words on matters which are of interest to the journal's readers, but which do not lend themselves to full-length article treatment.
4. The Editorial Committee will not consider articles published or intended for publication elsewhere. Authors are expected to give assurance that the articles have not in whole or in part or in substance been published or offered for publication elsewhere, and in furtherance to this requirement, authors must state in their respective forwarding letters or emails that the articles have not and will not be submitted elsewhere for publication until a decision is made by the editors not to publish. Each author shall also be deemed to have given exclusive licence to the publishers (or its assignee) to publish the article in the Crescent University Law Journal in print and electronically.
5. The title, and author of articles should be clearly indicated together with the brief personal details, postal and e-mail address that may be published with the article.
6. Authors of articles are asked to provide a brief head note or abstract of around 60 words describing the contents of their articles.
7. All articles are referred to ensure both accuracy and relevance. Authors may be asked to revise their articles before final acceptance.
8. The author should guarantee that the works he or she has submitted are original. If the author has used work and/or words by others, appropriate citations are required. Plagiarism in all its forms constitutes unethical publishing behaviour and is unacceptable.
9. The author should indicate explicitly all sources that have supported the research and also declare any conflict(s) of interest.
10. The author should give due acknowledgement to all of those who have made contributions to the research. Those who have contributed significantly to the research should be listed as coauthors. The author should ensure that all coauthors have affirmed the final version of the paper and have agreed on its final publication.

11. The author should promptly inform the journal editor of any obvious error(s) in his or her published paper and cooperate earnestly with the editor in retraction or correction of the paper. If the editor is notified by any party other than the author that the published The Editorial Committee reserves the right to make what changes they consider desirable
    (a) to bring the manuscript into line with the house style of the journal,
    (b) to eliminate errors of typing, grammar, syntax, punctuation, spelling, idiom, and the like,
    (c) to eliminate ambiguity, illogicality, tautology, circumlocution, and redundancy,
    (d) to promote accuracy and coherence,
    (e) to improve the mode of expression and style of writing, and
    (f) to avoid possible criminal or civil liability.
12. All materials for the journal must be in English. In special circumstance, articles written in any other language will be considered for translation and publication. Such articles when submitted to the Editorial Committee, must be accompanied by a synopsis in English
13. Footnotes rather than endnotes should be provided and numbered consecutively throughout the text with Arabic numerals and 10-point single line spacing. Authors are advised to refer to recent issues of the journal to see the format of articles, notes, and comments.
14. Authors are requested to read their manuscripts very carefully to avoid the need for the editors to exercise these rights extensively. In particular, authors must acquaint themselves with the house style of the *CRULJ*. Note, in particular:

Books

(i) ***One author***

Surname of author followed by initials, title of the book (must be in italics), the edition (not in italics), place of publication, publisher, year of publication (in brackets) and page number.

Thus:

Sagay I. E. *Nigerian Law of Contract* 2 ed. Ibadan Spectrum Books Ltd (2000) 200.

(ii) ***Two or more authors***

Example: A. T. Oyewo and O. A. Leigh, *Introduction to African Comparative Law and Related Issues* (Abeokuta: Crescent University Press, 2016).

(iii) ***Four or more authors***

List only the first author followed by et al. ('and others'),

Example: Kiser D Barnes et al., *Modern Company Law and Practice in Nigeria*, (Ile-Ife: Obafemi Awolowo University Press, 1988).

(iv) ***Chapter or other part of a book***

Example: Okorodudu-Fubara M. T., *Ultra Vires Doctrine in Company Law*, E. O. Akanki (ed), Lagos: University of Lagos Press, 1999), Ch.8 p. 156.

Journal Articles (Print)

Author's surname followed by initials. Title of the article should be surrounded by single quotation marks. Thereafter: the year of publication (not in italics), the volume number (not in italics), the title of the volume/journal (in italics, no stops), the number of the first page of the article; and if necessary, the specific page number referred to. Abbreviations in italics for the title of familiar law journals. Otherwise give the title in full in italics.

Thus:
Reynolds A. I, 'Agency: Theory and Practice' (1978) 94 *L.Q.R.* 24.
Karjiker S, 'Justifications for Copyright: The Moral Justifications' (2013) 1 *Intellectual Property Law Journal* 42, 53.

Case law

As a general rule, references to Nigerian, English, and other cases should be to the Law Reports. The case name (in italics); the date of the judgment, the volume number, the abbreviations of the Law Report (not in italics), the part of the volume (not in italics), the number of the first page of the article; and if necessary, the specific page number referred to.
Thus:
Okafor v Nweke [2007] 10 NWLR (Pt. 1043) 521, 530-531
First Bank Plc. v Maiwada [2003] All FWLR (Pt. 151) 2001, 2014.
No comma should be used in case references except before second and subsequent page numbers: e.g. *Carlill v Carbolic Smoke Ball Co.* [1893] 1 QB 256, 263.

Artificial Intelligence

Use of artificial intelligence in writing the paper must be acknowledged, just like other publications. Example:
Citation for Microsoft Copilot
APA (7th edition):-
APA recommends treating AI tools like Copilot as "algorithm-authored" works.
The citation would look like this:
In-text citation: (Microsoft Copilot, 2025)
Reference list: Microsoft Copilot. (2025). AI-generated response on [topic]. Microsoft. https://copilot.microsoft.com

Statutes

To be cited thus:

1) *Companies and Allied Matters Act* (CAMA), 1990, Cap. C 20, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, s. 37 (at first mention).
2) The abbreviation CAMA is acceptable in subsequent reference. Note that s. for section is lower case, CAMA s. 503.
3) The abbreviation LFN for (Laws of Federation of Nigeria) is also acceptable preferably at subsequent mention.
4) 'paragraph' is spelt out in full as the first word of a sentence, but otherwise is 'para' (plural 'paras').

Newspaper articles

If mentioned, the name of the author of an article cited should, on the first occasion it is mentioned, be given. The title of the article should, on the first occasion it is mentioned, be given. The title of the article should be surrounded by single quotation marks. Thereafter: the title of the newspaper (in italics); between parentheses, the place of publication and the date of publication; the page number. Thus:

1) Olukoya 'We Must Negotiate a New Nigeria – Musdapher, ex-CJN' *Sunday Tribune* (Ibadan, 18 September 2016) 5.
2) 'Poll Suspension Truly Needful' Sunday Tribune (Ibadan, 18 September 2016) 4.

Cross-referencing hints:

1) As seen in **Books** above, full title etc. on the first occasion, thereafter, subsequent mention use 'Supra note 2' or 'See note 2 above'.
2) Leigh (n 9) 13. (Meaning page 13 of the work by Leigh, cited in full at footnote 9 of the *CRULJ* article)
3) Ibid (meaning in the same work at the same page).
4) See also s 9.
5) Para [43]. (Meaning at para 43 of the judgment).

Internet references

If mentioned, the initial and surname of the author of an article cited should, on the first occasion it is mentioned, be given; alternatively, the name of the organisation responsible for the article should be given. The title of the article or report should be surrounded by single quotation marks. Thereafter: the internet address, and in brackets, the date on which the site was last viewed or accessed.

Thus:

1) UN 'Global Food Security in the 21st Century', available at http://www.un.org/fao_e.htm (accessed on 18 September 2016).
2) M T Okorodudu-Fubara 'Environmental Law and Practice in Nigeria', available at http://web.unep.org/library/Index/eng (accessed on 23 February 2016).
3) Mark Freeman and Dorothee Marotine (International Centre for Transitional Justice) 'Qu'est-ce que la justice transitionnelle? available at <www.ictj.org/images/content/7/5/752.pdf> (accessed on 11 August 2023).

15. The citation for this journal is e.g. (2025) 10 CRULJ 27 (where 27 is the relevant page number)
16. All materials for publication, including articles, case notes, current development notes, book review, correspondence and comments should be clearly typed, double-spaced, in Microsoft Word A4 paper format with 2.5cm margins, one and a half line spacing and Times New Roman font; 12 points and submitted by email to **lawjournal@bacolaw.edu.ng**