



**Bar Essay Writing and Analysis
Spring 2019 Course Syllabus
Monday and Wednesday (Section 163)**

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Required Text: 1. Strategies & Tactics for the MBE, Emanuel, Sixth Edition
2. Clearing the Last Hurdle, Wanda Temm, Second Edition

(The two texts will be available in the MSL bookstore and offered to our students at a special bundled price. Older editions should not be used.)

3. MBE Flashcards, Kaplan Bar Review
4. MEE Flashcards, Kaplan Bar Review

(The flashcards will be available for purchase through a Kaplan representative who will be on campus in the MSL café on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 from 12-7:30 pm and Wednesday, January 23, 2019 from 1:00 – 3:30 pm.) Make sure to have a credit card or check written out to “Kaplan.” Cash will not be accepted.

All 4 required materials listed above will also be required for Comparison (editions may vary)

Recommended Text: Bar Exam Boot Camp for the MBE by Emanuel (available at reserve desk)

Course Description: This course focuses on honing and improving students’ analytical and writing skills, with a special emphasis on the analytical and writing skills used for successful completion of the essay portion of the bar examination. Students will explore issue spotting techniques and methods of analysis; learn helpful tips for writing essay exams; receive personalized feedback on essays; and review the substantive law necessary to write the essay portion of the uniform bar exam, which is now administered in Massachusetts (beginning July 2018).

Course Overview: This is an intensive writing class, and you should expect to complete various in-class assignments, in addition to other exercises and scheduled readings. Students should have completed all seven substantive courses tested by the Multi-State Bar Exam before taking this course: Torts, Contracts, Property, Civil Procedure, Evidence, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law/Criminal Procedure.

You will complete 12 graded in-class assignments during the semester, on which you will receive personal feedback. There will be 3 graded take-home assignments. You will write a mid-term exam, which will focus on issue spotting and outlining an actual six-question bar exam. There will also be a final essay exam on which you'll answer 3 MEE questions and 1 MPT problem in three hours.

Course Grading: Each assignment will be graded on a seven-point scale, consistent with the grading employed by the Massachusetts Board of Bar Examiners.

Your final letter grade will be based on the following assignments and allocation of points:

11 Multi-State Essay Examinations, worth 7 points each (77 points total)
1 Multi-State Performance Test, worth 7 points (7 points total)
3 Take-Home Assignments, worth 7 points each (21 points total)
Midterm (18 points total)
Final exam (77 points total)

MSL POLICY:

ALL students are required to take and satisfactorily complete Bar Essay Writing prior to enrolling in the Comparison course. Satisfactory completion of Bar Essay Writing requires that the student receive no less than a "C" in the course. If a student does not receive a "C" or better, they must retake the course.

Students may take Bar Essay Writing at any time after completion of the seven substantive bar tested subjects: Civil Procedure, Criminal Law & Procedure, Contracts, Evidence, Torts, Property, and Constitutional Law.

There will be ONE designated day for make-up work on which you MUST make up any work you missed during the course in order to pass.

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory for each and every class. Students may make up one in-class essay during the semester. Students must receive special permission for any additional make-up assignments.

Students who accumulate more than three (3) unexcused absences will have their grade reduced by one-third for each unexcused absence thereafter.

OVERVIEW OF WEEKLY TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

DATE	READING AND ASSIGNMENTS To be completed before class	TOPICS
Monday 1/21		NO CLASS
Wednesday 1/23	Temm, Chapters 1-8	Introduction to the UBE Structure and Bar Essay Writing
Monday 1/28	Temm, Chapter 13 Emanuel, pg. 305-314 MBE Evidence Flashcards	
Wednesday 1/30		Evidence Sample Essay In-Class #1: Evidence
Monday 2/4	Temm, Chapter 9 Emanuel, pg. 1-24 MBE Civil Procedure Flashcards	
Wednesday 2/6		Civil Procedure Sample Essay In-Class# 2: Civil Procedure
Monday 2/11	Temm, Chapter 16 MEE Corporations Flashcards MEE Agency Flashcards MEE Partnership Flashcards	

Wednesday 2/13	Temm, Chapter 14 Emanuel, pg. 375-384 MBE Property Flashcards	
Monday 2/18		Corporations, Agency, Partnership Sample Essay Property Sample Essay In-Class #3: Corporations, Agency, Partnership In-Class #4: Property
Wednesday 2/20	Temm, Chapter 11 Emanuel, pg. 161-172 MBE Contracts Flashcards	
Monday 2/25	Temm, Chapter 18 and 20 MEE Family Law Flashcards MEE Conflicts of Law Flashcards	
Wednesday 2/27		Family Law & Conflicts of Law Sample Essay Contracts Sample Essay In-Class #5: Family Law & Conflicts of Law In-Class #6: Contracts
Monday 3/4	Compare Graded Bar Essay Samples	
Wednesday 3/6		MIDTERM
WEEK OF 3/11-3/15	VACATION WEEK	NO CLASSES

Monday 3/18	Temm, Chapter 17 MEE Trusts Flashcards MEE Wills Flashcards	
Wednesday 3/20	Temm, Chapter 15 Emanuel, pg. 441-450 MBE Torts Flashcards	
Monday 3/25	CONFERENCES	
Wednesday 3/27		Wills & Trusts Sample Essay Torts Sample Essay In-Class# 7: Wills & Trusts In-Class #8: Torts
Monday 4/1	Temm, Chapter 19 MEE Secured Transactions Flashcards	
Wednesday 4/3	Temm, Chapter 12 Emanuel, pg. 233-242 MBE Criminal Law & Procedure Flashcards	
Monday 4/8		Secured Transactions Sample Essay Criminal Law & Procedure Sample Essay In-Class #9: Secured Transactions In-Class #10: Criminal Law & Procedure

Wednesday 4/10	Temm, Chapter 10 Emanuel, pg. 89-104 MBE Con Law Flashcards	
Monday 4/15		NO CLASS
Wednesday 4/17		Constitutional Law Sample Essay In-Class #11: Constitutional Law
Monday 4/22	Temm, Chapter 5 Handouts	MPT Overview: (Persuasive Brief, Objective Memo, Opinion Letter, Demand Letter)
Wednesday 4/24	Temm, Chapter 5 Handouts	MPT Overview: (Persuasive Brief, Objective Memo, Opinion Letter, Demand Letter)
Monday 4/29	CONFERENCES	
Wednesday 5/1		In-Class #12: MPT
Monday 5/6		Final Exam Review
TBA		FINAL 3-HOUR ESSAY EXAM