



**Bar Essay Writing and Analysis Section 273
Summer I 2020 Course Syllabus
Monday and Wednesday 6:00 – 10:00 pm**

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**** If MSLAW remains shut down due to COVID-19, I will not have access to voicemail and the only way to communicate with me will be via email. ****

COVID-19 UPDATE

Online Component: Due to the public health emergency caused by COVID-19, Summer I Bar Essay will be conducted virtually through online platforms. In order to participate in the course, you will need to have access to the internet, an active TWEN account via MSLAW, ability to check your email regularly for course correspondence, access to a computer/laptop/smart device for in-class and home writing assignments, and a camera-enabled device in order to attend Zoom online classes. You may also need access to a printer.

Required Text:

1. Strategies & Tactics for the MBE, Emanuel, Seventh Edition
2. Clearing the Last Hurdle, Wanda Temm, Second Edition

The two texts, which will also be required for Comparison (editions may vary), will be available in the MSLAW bookstore and offered to our students at a special bundled price. Older editions should not be used

3. MBE and MBE Flashcards, Kaplan Bar Review

OR

4. MBE and MEE Flashcards, Critical Pass

You are required to purchase one of the above MBE/MEE flashcard sets.

- **If you choose to order the Kaplan cards, email Garrett Borrosh (garrett.borrosh@kaplan.com).**
- **If you choose to order the Critical Pass cards, contact me so I can provide you the ordering information (and discount code)**

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.

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 must have completed all seven substantive courses tested by the Multi-State Bar Exam before taking this course: Torts, Contracts, Property, Evidence, Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law/Criminal Procedure.**

It is recommended that you also have completed Business Entities, UCC, Wills & Trusts, and Family Law.

You will complete 8 graded in-class assignments during the semester, on which you will receive personal feedback. There will be 3 graded take-home assignments and weekly exercises. You will write a three-hour final exam.

Course Grading: Each essay 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:

8 Multi-State Essay Examinations, worth 7 points each (56 points total)
1 Multi-State Performance Test, worth 7 points (7 points total)
3 Take-Home Assignments, worth 7 points each (21 points total)
13 Bonus Exercises, worth 1 point each (13 points total)
Final exam (77 points total)

MSL POLICY:

All students are required to achieve 40% or higher on their qualifying Assessment Test prior to enrolling in Bar Essay. If you have not achieved 40% or higher on your Assessments Tests or you have not taken an Assessment Test, you should see me immediately. Ineligible students will be withdrawn from Bar Essay.

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.

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 from a dean for any additional make-up assignments. Students who accumulate more than two (1) unexcused absence will have their grade reduced by one-third (Ex: C reduced to C-)

OVERVIEW OF WEEKLY TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

DATE	READING AND ASSIGNMENTS To be completed before class	TOPICS
Monday 06/01	<p>Temm, Chapters 1-8 (skip Chapter 5 for now)</p> <p>Temm, Chapter 13 Emanuel, 395-404 MBE Evidence Flashcards</p>	<p>Introduction to the UBE Anatomy of a Bar Essay Question</p> <p>Structure of a Bar Essay Answer and Bar Essay Writing</p> <p>***Take Home #1 Distributed***</p>
Wednesday 06/03	<p>Temm, Chapter 9 Emanuel, pg. 1-30 MBE Civil Procedure Flashcards</p> <p>Temm, Chapter 14 Emanuel, pg. 485-492 MBE Real Property Flashcards</p> <p>Temm, Chapter 11 Emanuel, pg. 225-236 MBE Contracts Flashcards</p>	
Monday 06/08	<p>***Take Home #1 DUE***</p> <p>***Take Home #2 Distributed***</p>	<p>Sample Essays</p> <p>In-Class Essays 1-4: Evidence, Civil Procedure, Real Property, and Contracts</p>

<p>Wednesday 06/10</p>	<p>Temm, Chapter 15 Emanuel, pg. 569-578 MBE Torts Flashcards</p> <p>Temm, Chapter 16 MEE Corporations Flashcards MEE Agency Flashcards MEE Partnership Flashcards</p> <p>Temm, Chapter 12 Emanuel, pg. 317-326 MBE Criminal Law & Procedure Flashcard</p> <p>Temm, Chapter 10 Emanuel, pg. 131-148 MBE Con Law Flashcards</p>	
<p>Monday 06/15</p>	<p>***Take Home #2 DUE***</p> <p>***Take Home #3 Distributed***</p>	<p>Sample Essays</p> <p>In-Class Essays 5-8: Torts, B.A. (Corps, Agency, P/ship), Criminal Law/Procedure, and Constitutional Law</p>
<p>Wednesday 06/17</p>	<p>Temm, Chapter 5 Handouts</p>	<p>MPT Overview: (Persuasive Brief, Objective Memo, Opinion Letter, Demand Letter)</p> <p>MPT Sample</p>
<p>Monday 06/22</p>	<p>***Take Home #3 DUE***</p>	<p>In-Class MPT</p> <p>Final Exam Review</p>
<p>Wednesday 6/24</p>		<p>FINAL 3-HOUR EXAM 6 pm – 9 pm</p>