



As of August 2, 2021 (subject to change)

Bar Exam Writing and Analysis

Fall 2021 Course Syllabus

Section 163: Tuesday-Thursday 4:30 pm – 5:50 pm

Section 185: Tuesday-Thursday 7:30 pm – 8:50 pm

Instructor: **Amy Dimitriadis**
Phone: (978) 681-0800 ext. 130
amyd@mslaw.edu (Fastest way to reach me during Fall 2021)

COVID-19 UPDATE: Subject to federal, state, local, and/or MSLAW administration orders, Bar Exam Writing and Analysis for Fall 2021 will be in-person and on campus with NO remote option. Unless otherwise announced or mandated, tests and exams will be in-person for all students. While on campus, we will be following all MSL Community Agreement requirements, including but not limited, practicing physical and social distancing, following signs and directions regarding the flow of traffic in classrooms and hallways, and washing/sanitizing hands frequently. Unless you are required to wear a facemask or face coverings by order of the administration, masks are welcome but not mandatory. You are required to stay home if you suspect that you have been exposed to COVID-19, if you have an elevated temperature, or you are feeling ill/displaying unusual symptoms. If your absence is mandated by the MSL Community Agreement, we will make arrangements for you to make up any missed work.

No one will be penalized for taking responsible action to protect themselves and our community.

Regardless of your preference and personal opinions about the pandemic, we will all treat our colleagues with respect for their personal choices and their individual circumstances.

Privacy Concerns: During the Fall 2021 semester, we will be using various online platforms in class, including Zoom (for conferencing only), TWEN (for class assignments), and Examsoft with AI technology (for tests, midterms, and exams). If you have any concerns with using their features, I suggest you contact IT as early as possible to resolve all tech and software issues. No exceptions will be made but for approved medical accommodations.

Limiting Exposure: In order to ensure the safety and well-being of our community, we will also be attempting to eliminate exposure and frequent contact through minimal exchange of paper and maintaining a safe distance at all times. We will be following these steps for the entirety of the semester:

1. You will maintain minimum 6 feet distance from the podium and remain behind the glass partition when approaching the podium. If you need to address a private matter, you may email me, we can arrange a phone call, or a one-on-one Zoom meeting.
2. All students are required to bring with them a Wi-Fi-enabled device (smartphone/tablet/laptop) in order to participate in class. We will be using TWEN for handouts and assignments. If you are unable to bring a device with you to class, please email me in advance so I can arrange to make paper copies. Unless I hear from you, I will not be making unnecessary paper copies. (Let's try to save some trees while we are at it.)
3. All assignments will be uploaded to TWEN during class and each student will be responsible for accessing and retrieving them from TWEN. Thus, unless you email me in advance, you must bring a device enabling you to access and view the material online on TWEN.
4. All assignments are due via TWEN or email (as instructed for each) to be received prior to the start of class time on their due date. If you have been specifically instructed to handwrite an assignment, then you must do so but then scan (or take a photo) of the handwritten assignment and submit it before the start of class on the due date.
Note: If you are taking a photo of the handwritten assignment, please use an app that converts photos into readable PDFs. Many smartphones/devices have this standard feature. TWEN has a limit on the size of files it accepts and jpegs are typically rejected.
5. Unless otherwise instructed in class or via email, all tests and exams will be submitted through Examsoft so students must have a compatible device for all in-person tests/exams.

If you haven't already, you should make arrangements to download and test the software in the beginning of the semester rather than wait until the night before an exam. If you do not have a compatible device, you should consult with IT in order to determine how best to proceed. The schedule below indicates with an asterisk* which days you will need to bring/use your Examsoft-compatible device for in-class essays or exams. For all classes without an asterisk, you'll need a Wi-Fi-enabled device or email me for paper copies.

6. I will not be meeting with students in my office this semester. We can, however, meet in an open area in the library. If you have any concerns that you need me to address privately, kindly email me and we can schedule a phone or Zoom conference. The fastest way to reach me is via email as I check my email regularly.
7. Regardless of your own personal opinions and/or beliefs about the measures taken due to the global pandemic caused by COVID-19, I expect Bar Exam Writing & Analysis students to respectfully comply with all requirements of

the MSL Community Agreement, MSL Student Handbook and Honor Code, as well as state and federal guidelines, and conduct yourselves in a manner befitting law students, future lawyers, and community leaders. I expect Bar Exam Writing and Analysis students to fully respect each individual's personal preferences without comment or derision. If you suspect someone is violating the rules mandated by the administration, you should bring this to my attention, rather than attempt to address yourself.

8. If you have any objections to these requirements, I urge you to contact me or speak with Dean Kaldis (pota@mslaw.edu) prior to the start of the semester.
9. If, in the unlikely event that MSL is required to shut down for any period of time during the Fall 2021 semester due to a public health emergency, Bar Exam Writing and Analysis will be conducted virtually through online platforms. In the event that the semester converts to virtual classes, in order to continue participating 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.
10. Due to the nature of the measures taken to ensure the safety of our community, I will be communicating with you via TWEN regularly. I urge you to make it a habit to check your email frequently because there could be last minute changes of which you will not be aware unless you check your email. If you do not check the email attached to your TWEN account, I suggest you change your TWEN settings to add your primary email account.

Required Text:

1. Strategies & Tactics for the MBE, Emanuel, **Seventh Ed. (!!!NEW Edition!!!)**
2. Clearing the Last Hurdle, Temm, **Third Edition (!!!! NEW Edition!!!!)**
3. The Ultimate Guide to the UBE, Hale, Miceli, Shah – with Raposa

To purchase the 3-book bundle at a discounted price, visit:

<https://www.wklegaledu.com/Bundle-EmanuelTemmHale-BarReview>

The textbooks will also be required for Comparison. Older editions should not be used. Chapters, pages, and questions have been changed and updated. If you purchase the older edition, you will be forced to pay again to purchase the correct edition for Comparison next semester.

4. MBE and MEE Flashcards, Kaplan Bar Review

OR

4. MBE and MEE Flashcards, Critical Pass

- **If you choose to order the Kaplan cards, you can contact the Kaplan representative. His email is nicholas.smith@kaplan.com**
- **If you choose to order the Critical Pass cards, contact me so I can provide you the ordering information (and applicable discount code)**

Recommended Text: Bar Exam Boot Camp for the MBE by Emanuel
(Do not purchase) From your 2nd Semester writing class:
Laurel C. Oates & Anne Enquist, Just Memos (Aspen 4th Ed.)
The BlueBook: A Uniform System of Citation

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 administered in Massachusetts (and 36+ other jurisdictions).

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, Civil Procedure, Evidence, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law & Procedure.**

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

You will complete 8 graded in-class MEE assignments and 1 graded in-class MPT during the semester, on which you will receive personal feedback. There will be weekly bonus exercises. You will also have a midterm exam and a three-hour final exam.

Course Grading: Each graded 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)
11 Weekly Exercises, worth 1 point each (11 points total)
Midterm (21 points total)
Final exam (105 points total)

MSL POLICY:

All students are required to achieve passing score on their qualifying Assessment Test prior to enrolling in Bar Exam Writing and Analysis. If you have not achieved passing score on your Assessment Tests or you have not taken an Assessment Test, you should see me immediately. Ineligible students will be withdrawn from Bar Exam Writing and Analysis.

ALL students are required to take and satisfactorily complete Bar Exam Writing and Analysis prior to enrolling in the Comparison course. Satisfactory completion of Bar Exam Writing and Analysis 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.

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.

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

OVERVIEW OF WEEKLY TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

DATE	READING AND ASSIGNMENTS To be completed before class	TOPICS
Tuesday 08/24	Temm, Chapters 1-8 (skip Chapter 5 for now) Ultimate Guide, pgs. 3-45	Introduction to the UBE Anatomy of a Bar Essay Question
Thursday 08/26	Temm, Chapters 1-8 (skip Chapter 5 for now) Ultimate Guide, pgs. 49-66	Anatomy of a Bar Essay Question
Tuesday 08/31	Temm, Chapters 1-8 (skip Chapter 5 for now) Ultimate Guide, pgs. 49-66	Structure of a Bar Essay Answer and Bar Exam Essay Writing
Thursday 09/02	Temm, Chapter 13 & pg. 394-397 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 242-263 Emanuel, pg. 395-404 MBE Evidence Flashcards	

Tuesday 09/07	Temm, Chapter 9 & pg. 335-339 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 107-142 Emanuel, pg. 1-30 MBE Civil Procedure Flashcards	
Thursday 09/09	Evidence and Civil Procedure Bonus Exercises Due on TWEN	Evidence Sample Essay Civil Procedure Sample Essay
Tuesday 09/14*		In-Class Essays
Thursday 09/16	Temm, Chapter 14 & pg. 408-411 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 201-224 Emanuel, pg. 485-492 MBE Property Flashcards	
Tuesday 09/21	Temm, Chapter 11 & pg. 362-364 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 67-106 Emanuel, pg. 225-236 MBE Contracts Flashcards	
Thursday 09/23	Property and Contracts Bonus Exercises Due on TWEN	Property Sample Essay Contracts Sample Essay
Tuesday 09/28*		In-Class Essays
Thursday 09/30	Compare Graded Bar Essay Samples	
Tuesday 10/05*		MIDTERM
Thursday 10/07		Conferences via Zoom
Tuesday 10/12	Temm, Chapter 15 & pg. 424-428 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 314-325 Emanuel, pg. 569-578 MBE Torts Flashcards	

Thursday 10/14	Temm, Chapter 16 & pg. 440-448 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 144-162 MEE Corporations Flashcards MEE Agency Flashcards MEE Partnership Flashcards	
Tuesday 10/19	Torts and B.A. Bonus Exercises Due on TWEN	Torts Sample Essay Corporations, Agency, Partnership Sample Essay
Thursday 10/21*		In-Class Essays
Tuesday 10/26	Temm, Chapter 12 & pg. 381-384 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 183-200 Emanuel, pg. 317-326 MBE Criminal Law & Procedure Flashcards	
Thursday 10/28	Temm, Chapter 10 & pg. 346-347 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 326-335 Emanuel, pg. 131-148 MBE Con Law Flashcards	
Tuesday 11/02	Crim. Law, Pro, and Con Law Bonus Exercises Due on TWEN	Criminal Law & Procedure Sample Essay Constitutional Law Sample Essay
Thursday 11/04*		In-Class Essays
Tuesday 11/09	Temm, Chapter 5 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 341-363 Handouts Recommended Chapters from: Just Memos	MPT Overview: Introduction to the MPT
Thursday 11/11	Temm, Chapter 5 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 365- 690 Handouts Recommended Chapters from: Just Memos	MPT Overview: (Persuasive Brief, Objective Memo, Opinion Letter, Demand Letter)

Tuesday 11/16	Temm, Chapter 5 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 365-690 Handouts Recommended Chapters from: Just Memos	MPT Overview: (Persuasive Brief, Objective Memo, Opinion Letter, Demand Letter)
Thursday 11/18*	Temm, Chapter 5 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 691-741 Handouts Recommended Chapters from: Just Memos	MPT Sample
Tuesday 11/23*	This class will begin early or end late, as will be discussed in class	In-Class MPT
Tuesday 11/30	Temm, Chapters 17-20 W&T, Fam. Law, Art. 9, COL Bonus Exercises Due on TWEN	Taking and Passing the Bar Final Exam Review
Thursday 12/02		MPT Review
TBA		FINAL 3-HOUR EXAM