



**Bar Exam Writing and Analysis
Spring 2023 Course Syllabus**

Section 163: Tuesday-Thursday 2:30 pm – 3:50 pm

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

Instructor: Amy Dimitriadis
Phone: (978) 681-0800 ext. 130
amvd@mslaw.edu (Fastest way to reach me during Spring 2023)

COVID-19 UPDATE: Subject to federal, state, local, and/or MSLAW administration orders, Bar Exam Writing and Analysis for Spring 2023 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 Spring 2023 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/sensitive matter, you may email me, we can arrange a phone call, or a one-on-one Zoom meeting.

2. Students may bring with them a Wi-Fi-enabled device with a large enough screen (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 for paper copies, 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 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 or other image files are typically rejected due to their size.
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 have not 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 will need a Wi-Fi-enabled device or email me for paper copies.

6. I will be limiting in-office meetings. 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 and 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 this 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 very unlikely event that MSL is required to shut down for any period of time during the Spring 2023 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.**
2. Clearing the Last Hurdle, Temm, **Third Edition**
3. The Ultimate Guide to the UBE, Hale, Miceli, Shah- with Raposa (**Redesigned**)

To purchase the 3-book bundle at a discounted price (\$181.60 until December 24, 2022), visit:

<https://www.aspenpublishing.com/Bundle-EmanuelTemmHale-BarReviewRedesigned>

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 german.fernandez@kaplan.com**
- **If you choose to order the Critical Pass cards, use the code "WAMC" at checkout to receive 15% off the set of cards.**

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

You may (but do not need to) bring the required textbooks to class on January 17th, provided you have completed the required reading.

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 graded essays; and review the substantive law necessary to write the essay portion of the uniform bar exam, which is administered in Massachusetts (and 38+ other jurisdictions).

Course Overview: This is an intensive writing class, and you should expect to complete various in-class and home assignments, in addition to other exercises and scheduled readings. **Students must have completed all seven substantive courses tested by the Multistate Bar Exam before taking this course: Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law, Contracts/Art. 2, Criminal Law/Procedure, Evidence, Real Property, and Torts.**

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 exercises. You will also have 3 MBE tests, a midterm exam, and a three-hour final exam.

Course Grading: Each graded essay 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 (dates listed below):

- (1) 100 Multiple Choice Tests (MBE)
- (8) Multi-State Essay Examinations (MEE)
- (1) Multi-State Performance Test (MPT)
- (14) Weekly Exercises
- (1) Midterm
- (1) Final exam

MSL POLICY:

All students are required to achieve a passing score on their qualifying Assessment Test (Level 1 and Level 2) prior to enrolling in Bar Exam Writing and Analysis. If you have not achieved a 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
Prior to MBE 1 on 1/14	Emanuel, pgs. xix-xlix Ultimate Guide, pgs. 741-832*	How to Attack the MBE *Applicable Mini Sheets
Saturday 01/14 (remote on Examsoft)	MBE 1 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Goal: 45%
Tuesday 01/17	Temm, Chapters 1-8 (skip Chapter 5 for now) Ultimate Guide, pgs. 1-33	Introduction to the UBE Anatomy of a Bar Exam Essay Question
Thursday 01/19	Temm, Chapters 1-8 (skip Chapter 5 for now) Ultimate Guide, pgs. 37-50	Anatomy of a Bar Exam Essay Question
Tuesday 01/24	Temm, Chapters 1-8 (skip Chapter 5 for now) Ultimate Guide, pgs. 51-98	Structure of a Bar Exam Essay Answer

Thursday 01/26	Temm, Chapter 13 & pg. 394-407 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 157-170 Emanuel, pg. 395-404 MBE Evidence Flashcards	
Tuesday 01/31	Temm, Chapter 9 & pg. 335-345 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 77-98, 110-121 Emanuel, pg. 1-30 MBE Civil Procedure Flashcards	
Thursday 02/02	Evidence and Civil Procedure Weekly Exercises Due on TWEN	Evidence Sample Essay Civil Procedure Sample Essay
Tuesday 02/07*		In-Class Essays
Thursday 02/09		Complete Assignment on TWEN Due by the end of today's class
Tuesday 02/14	Temm, Chapter 11 & pg. 362-380 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 51-76 Emanuel, pg. 225-236 MBE Contracts Flashcards	
Thursday 02/16	Temm, Chapter 14 & pg. 408-423 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 132-146 Emanuel, pg. 485-492 MBE Property Flashcards	
Tuesday 02/21	Contracts and Property Weekly Exercises Due on TWEN	Contracts Sample Essay Property Sample Essay
Thursday 02/23*		In-Class Essays
Tuesday 02/28	Mental Health Week	Individual Conferences
Thursday 03/02	Mental Health Week	Bar Preparation
Prior to MBE 2 on 03/04	Ultimate Guide, pgs. 517-532*	

Saturday 03/04 (remote on Examsoft)	MBE 2 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Goal: 55%
Tuesday 03/07*		MIDTERM
Thursday 03/09	Temm, Chapter 15 & pg. 424-439 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 198-204 Emanuel, pg. 569-577 MBE Torts Flashcards	
Tuesday 03/14 -- Thursday 03/16	SPRING BREAK	NO CLASS
Tuesday 03/21	Temm, Chapter 16 & pg. 440-448 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 99-110, 170-183 MEE Corporations Flashcards MEE Agency Flashcards MEE Partnership Flashcards	
Thursday 03/23	Torts and B.A. (Corp & Agency) Weekly Exercises Due on TWEN	Torts Sample Essay Corporations, Agency, Partnership Sample Essay
Tuesday 03/28*		In-Class Essays
Thursday 03/30	Temm, Chapter 12 & pg. 381-393 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 121-132, 157-170 Emanuel, pg. 317-325 MBE Criminal Law & Procedure Flashcards	
Tuesday 04/04	Temm, Chapter 10 & pg. 346-361 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 204-211 Emanuel, pg. 131-147** MBE Con Law Flashcards	** this chapter/edition was published prior to the 2022 SCOTUS decisions
Thursday 04/06	Crim. Law, Crim Pro, & Con Law Weekly Exercises Due on TWEN	Criminal Law/Pro Sample Essay Constitutional Law Sample Essay
Tuesday 04/11		In-Class Essays

Thursday 04/13	Temm, Chapter 5 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 215-290 Handouts Recommended Chapters from: Just Memos	MPT Overview: Introduction to the MPT
Tuesday 04/18	Temm, Chapter 5 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 290-346 Handouts Recommended Chapters from: Just Memos	MPT Overview: (Persuasive Brief, Objective Memo, Opinion Letter, Demand Letter)
Thursday 04/20	Temm, Chapter 5 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 347-419 Handouts Recommended Chapters from: Just Memos	MPT Overview: (Persuasive Brief, Objective Memo, Opinion Letter, Demand Letter)
Tuesday 04/25	Temm, Chapter 5 Ultimate Guide, pgs. 421-513 Handouts Recommended Chapters from: Just Memos	MPT Sample
Thursday 04/27*	This class will begin early or end late, as will be discussed in class	In-Class MPT
Tuesday 05/02	Temm, Chapters 17-20 & pgs. 449-465 W&T, Fam. Law, Art. 9, COL Weekly Exercises Due on TWEN	Taking and Passing the Bar Final Exam Review
Thursday 05/04		MPT Review
Saturday 05/13 (remote on Examsoft)	MBE 3 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Passing 60%
TBA* Best estimate -- Monday 05/15		FINAL 3-HOUR EXAM