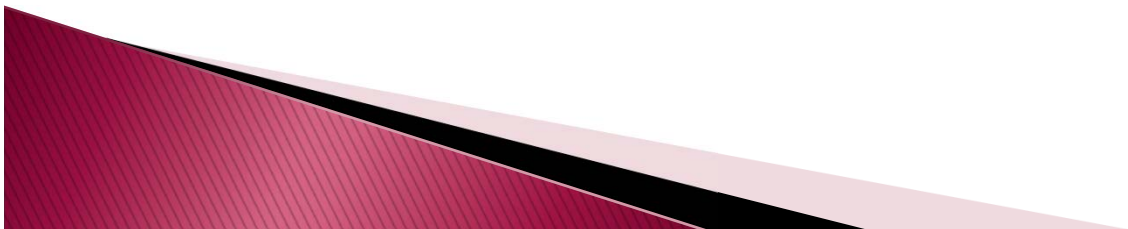


Demystifying the Bar: From 1L to Swearing In

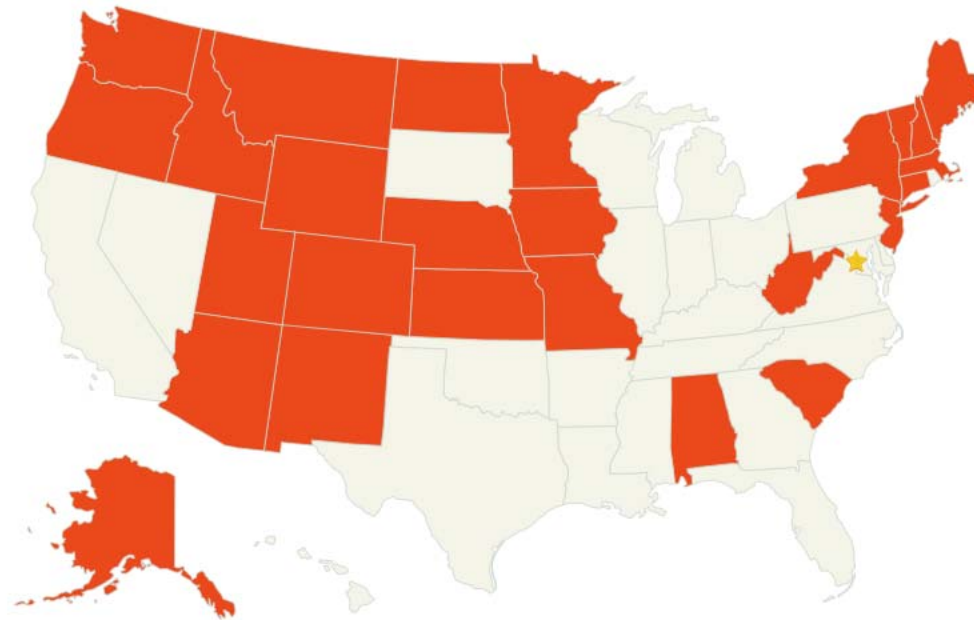
Pat Mellen, Esq. – JD 12/2016



Bar Exam

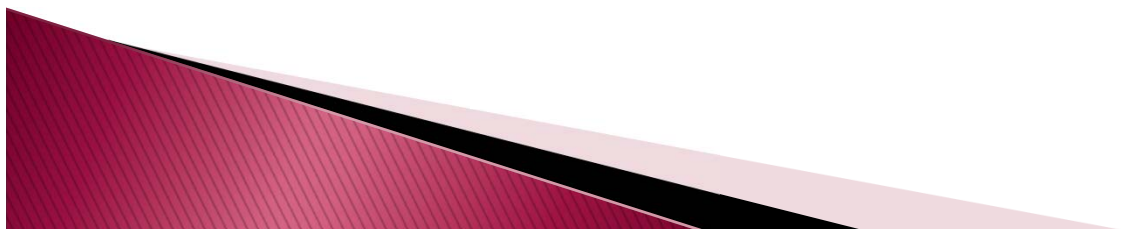


Where do you want to practice? UBE States v. Non-UBE States



LEGEND	
Orange square	UBE Adopted
Light beige square	UBE Not Adopted

NOT SHOWN ON MAP	
Orange square	District of Columbia
Light beige square	Guam
Light beige square	Northern Mariana Islands
Light beige square	Palau
Light beige square	Puerto Rico
Orange square	Virgin Islands



UBE States Passing Scores

Minimum Passing UBE Score	Jurisdiction
260	Alabama, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, North Dakota
266	Connecticut, District of Columbia, Iowa, Kansas, Montana, New Jersey, New York, South Carolina, Virgin Islands
270	Massachusetts, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Utah, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming
272	Idaho
273	Arizona
274	Oregon
276	Colorado, Maine
280	Alaska

Since jurisdiction rules and policies change, you are strongly advised to [consult the jurisdiction's bar admission agency](#) directly for the most current information.

Colorado Pass Rates – July 2017

First Time Takers

Date	Total	% Pass	DU	% Pass
July 2017	654	77	185	78
February 2017	226	70	44	68
July 2016	726	78	212	84
February 2016	230	70	40	78



Uniform Bar Exam (UBE)

Day 1: MEE – 6 Essays
MPT – 2 Problems

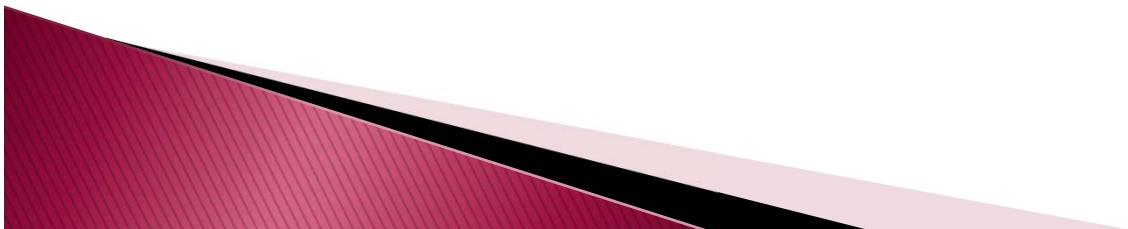
Core + Additional Topics

- Business Associations
- Conflict of Laws
- Family Law
- Trusts and Estates
- Secured Transactions

Day 2: MBE 200 Multiple
Choice Questions

Core Topics Only

- Civil Procedure
- Contracts
- Constitutional Law
- Criminal Law/Procedure
- Evidence
- Real Property
- Torts



Bar Exam – MEE/MPT Skills

- ▶ MEE – Multistate Essay Examination
 - Focus on Writing Skills
 - “Boring organization gets all the points” – Prof. Russell

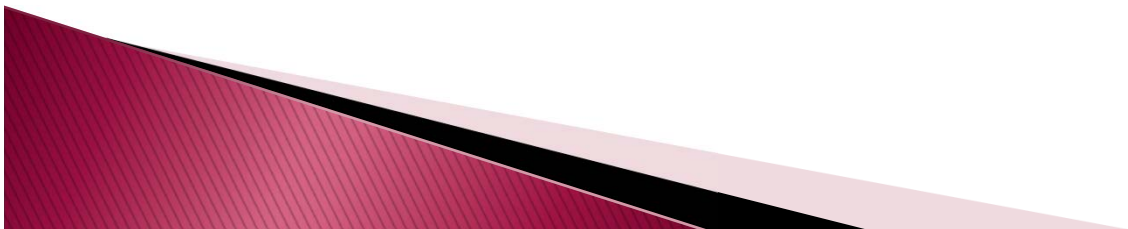
- ▶ MPT – Multistate Performance Test
 - Lawyering Process Skills
 - Client–centric Projects
 - Objective Memos
 - Client Letters
 - Evidence Plans

- ▶ Ethics Competency Expected

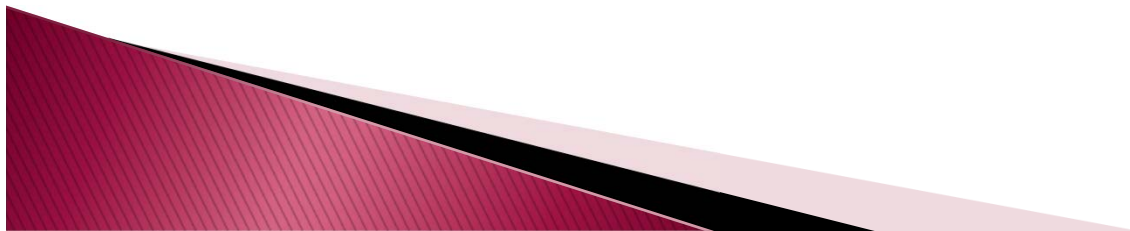


Bar Exam Preparation Traditional Study Plan

- ▶ Graduation to Test Gap Period (~10 weeks)
 - May – Late July
 - December – Late February
- ▶ Gap Study Support Options
 - Commercial Bar Prep Options (\$\$\$)
 - DU Bar Success Program
 - Supplemental Self Study



Commercial Bar Prep Options



Bar Exam Planning

- ▶ Time Management
 - Priorities
 - Deadlines and Checklists
- ▶ Work Expectations
 - Study Period
 - Results Waiting Period + Swearing In
- ▶ Costs
 - Application Fees – Bar Exam \$710
 - MPRE – \$95
 - Professionalism Class – \$100
 - Commercial Prep Programs – \$\$\$ Varies
- ▶ Financial Planning
 - Savings
 - Bar Study Loans

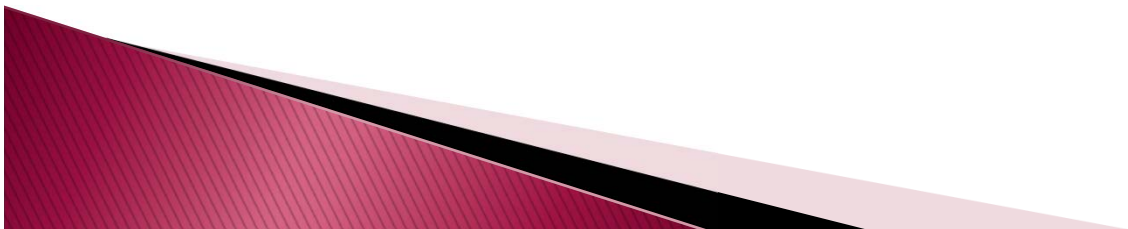


Bar Exam Preparation

Longer Term Planning

- ▶ Law School Course Work
 - Required Classes
 - CivPro, CrimLaw, ConLaw, Contracts, (Real) Property, Torts, Lawyering Process
 - Electives
 - Commercial Law, Con Law II, Crim Pro, Family Law, Trust & Estates, Conflicts of Law, Corporations, Agency Partnership LLCs

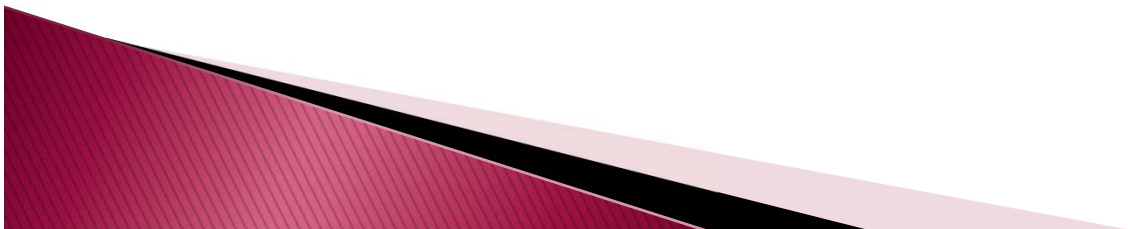
- ▶ Practical Experience
 - Internships/Externships
 - Clinics
 - Work/Study



Bar Exam Preparation

Class-Based Contributions

- ▶ Black Letter Federal Law
- ▶ Federal Rules Civil & Criminal Procedure
- ▶ Generally Applicable Legal Principles
- ▶ Common Factual Frameworks
- ▶ Problem Solving
- ▶ Issue Spotting



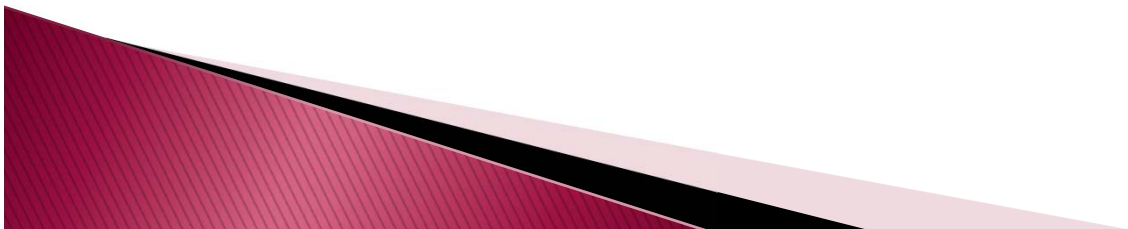
Self-Study Tools

Evidence: Relevance & Admissibility		
Relevance	Relevance	Evidence is relevant if probative and material i) It has any tendency to make a fact more or less probable than it would be without the evidence (probative) ii) The fact is of consequence in determining the action (material)
Relevance	403 Objection	The Court may exclude relevant evidence if its probative value is substantially outweighed by a danger of one or more of the following i) Unfair prejudice ii) Confusing the issues iii) Misleading the jury iv) Undue delay v) Wasting time vi) Needlessly presenting cumulative evidence
Relevance	Offers of Proof	When the relevance of evidence depends upon whether a fact exists, proof must be introduced sufficient to support a finding that the fact does exist.



Logistics FAQs

- ▶ Office of Attorney Admissions restrictions
- ▶ Location, location, location
- ▶ Basic needs
- ▶ Delayed exam results
- ▶ Character and Fitness parallel process
- ▶ Swearing In



Self Awareness

- ▶ Know your learning style
 - Verbal/Written/Auditory
 - Plan for breaks and cabin fever
- ▶ Memorization techniques
 - Flashcards
 - Memory Palace
- ▶ Mitigation of test taking “tics”
 - Self care is critical
 - Stress management

