

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW
MULTISTATE BAR TOPICS COURSE
LAW 6930 – Class # 21471 (Online)
Spring 2020

INSTRUCTORS

Professor Jonathan Grossman
jonathan@whatstheissue.org

Professor Betsy Ruff
ruff@law.ufl.edu
(352) 273-0883
Office: HOL 351
Office Hours: Tue. 1:30 – 2:30 pm & Thur.
1:30 – 2:30 pm. You may also schedule an
appointment with me for another time.

Professor Grossman will help you understand and memorize the core principles of the seven subjects tested on the Multistate Bar Exam, teach you how to apply these principles to successfully answer multiple choice questions, and help you learn other multiple choice test taking skills. Professor Ruff will serve primarily as the course administrator. If you have any questions, comments, or notices regarding the course or AdaptiBar, please first contact Prof. Ruff.

MEETING TIME AND LOCATION; RECORDING OF CLASSES

Classes for this course will meet on seven Fridays during the semester, beginning on Friday, January 17, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm in rooms HOL 355 B and 355 C. See the Course Schedule below. The link to the Media Site where all recordings of the classes in this course can be accessed will be posted on the course website (Canvas). The recording of each class should be posted to the Media Site for this course approximately 10 minutes after the class has ended.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

All students are required to purchase an instructional material called AdaptiBar MBE Simulator & Prep Program no later than January 30, 2020. AdaptiBar is an online database that contains hundreds of licensed Multistate Bar Examination (MBE) questions and explanations for correct answers for the seven MBE subject areas. Students will complete an assignment of AdaptiBar questions (i.e., a quiz) after each class (see the Course Schedule below). Students will also be able to use this resource to study for the bar exam after the course is over until they take the bar exam in July.

Students may purchase access to AdaptiBar here: <https://www.adaptibar.com> . Please use the promo code of UFL20 to receive a discounted price (\$345). Instructions for purchasing and enrolling in AdaptiBar have been sent to students enrolled in this course and also are posted on the course website (Canvas).

In addition, in order to be eligible to sit for the final exam, students must demonstrate that they have purchased a commercial bar course. The reason for this requirement is that this course is designed to supplement, not supplant, a commercial bar course. Students will receive details at a later time regarding how to satisfy this requirement.

COURSE WEBSITE

All course materials other than AdaptiBar are accessible on Canvas <https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389453>.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

This is a substantive and skills-development course that provides students with concentrated review of legal subjects that are tested on the MBE. Students will gain substantive knowledge on all seven subjects of the MBE through course lecture and application of the knowledge to the MBE format. Students will be familiar with the techniques and strategies for answering multiple-choice questions of the bar exam. Throughout the course students will gain a better understanding of legal analysis, test taking strategies, and stress management. This course is not a substitute for any commercial bar preparation course.

COMMON COURTESY

All members of this course are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages.

CLASS ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance in class is required by both the ABA and the Law School. For purposes of this course “attendance in class” refers to watching all of the class recordings. Other university policies related to class attendance can be found here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students are bound by the honor pledge, which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code.” On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at <http://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>.

Keep in mind that the purpose of this two credit course is to prepare you for the bar exam, not to inflate your GPA.

EVALUATION

Components of your grade in this course are as follows: (1) quizzes, including timely completion—25%; (2) closed-book midterm exam—25%; and (3) three hour closed-book final exam during the final exam period—50%.

POLICY RELATED TO MAKE-UP EXAMS

The law school policy on delay in taking exams can be found at: <http://www.law.ufl.edu/student-affairs/current-students/forms-applications/exam-delays-accommodations-form>

INFORMATION ON UF LAW GRADING POLICIES

The Levin College of Law's mean and mandatory distributions are posted on the College's website and this class adheres to that posted grading policy. The following chart describes the specific letter grade/grade point equivalent in place:

Letter Grade	Point Equivalent
A (Excellent)	4.0
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.0
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C (Satisfactory)	2.0
C-	1.67
D+	1.33
D (Poor)	1.0
D-	0.67
E (Failure)	0.0

The law school grading policy is available at: <http://www.law.ufl.edu/student-affairs/current-students/academic-policies#9> .

STATEMENT REGARDING ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES WHO EXPERIENCE LEARNING BARRIERS

Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Disability Resource Center <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started> . Once

registered, students will receive an accommodation letter, which must be presented to the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs (Dean Mitchell) when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

STUDENT COURSE EVALUATIONS

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/>. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will receive notice of the specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

CLASS PREPARATION

Students should expect to spend, on average, approximately two hours preparing for class or completing quizzes on AdaptiBar for every hour of class.

COURSE SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Note: All quizzes and exams will be taken online on AdaptiBar.

<i>Date & Day of Week</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Description</i>
January 17 Friday	8:30am – 12:30pm	Class 1	Introduction to the Multi-State Bar Exam; Torts
January 24 Friday	8:30am – 12:30pm	Class 2	Criminal Law/Criminal Procedure
January 31 Friday	8:30am – 12:30pm	Class 3	Federal Constitutional Law
TBA	TBA	Quiz 1 Due	Open-notes
TBA	TBA	Quiz 2 Due	Open-notes

<i>Date & Day of Week</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Description</i>
TBA	TBA	Quiz 3 Due	Open-notes
February 14 Friday	8:30am – 12:30pm	Class 4	Contracts
TBA	TBA	Quiz 4 Due	Open-notes
February 28 Friday	8:30am – 12:30pm	Class 5	Property
TBA	TBA	Quiz 5 Due	Open-notes
March 13 Friday	8:30am – 12:30pm	Class 6	Evidence
March 20, Friday; March 21, Saturday; March 22, Sunday (EDT).	See description.	Midterm Exam	Closed book; Closed-notes. The midterm exam is one hour long and open from 11:00 a.m., March 20, until 11:45 p.m. March 22 (EDT). Once you begin the exam you must continue taking it because at the end of one hour, access to the exam will automatically end.
March 27 Friday	8:30am – 12:30pm	Class 7	Civil Procedure
TBA	TBA	Quiz 6 Due	Open-notes
TBA	TBA	Quiz 7 Due	Open-notes
April 29 Wednesday	8:30am	Final Exam	Closed book; Closed notes. The final exam is three hours long and open from 8:30 a.m., April 29, until 11:45 p.m. April 29 (EDT). Once you begin the exam you must continue taking it because at the end of three hours, access to the exam will automatically end.

Disclaimer: *This syllabus represents the current course plans and objectives. As the semester proceeds, these plans may be changed to enhance the class learning experience. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.*