

GUIDE SERIES 4 - SELECTED RESEARCH TOPICS



Guide #4G – CALIFORNIA BAR STUDY GUIDE

ABOUT THE BAR EXAMINATION

The three-day California bar Examination is administered twice a year, in February and July. The Bar Examination is composed of three parts: six essay questions, two performance test questions, and the Multistate Bar Examination. For more information, please see the Law Library's web page at www.ggu.edu/lawlibrary/studentstudyaims/barexam.

CALIFORNIA BAR EXAM COURSE PREPARATION CLASSES

A comprehensive bar exam preparation course is an absolute necessity for success, especially for first-time bar takers. First-time takers are recommended to choose either BAR/BRI or BARPASSERS for comprehensive review, supplemented by the PMBR system for MBE preparation.

BAR/BRI

BAR/BRI claims to be "the nation's most experienced, most personalized, and most up-to-date bar review course." "BAR/BRI combines comprehensive, yet concise outlines, dynamic law school professors, and the most complete Multistate and Essay Testing programs to give you the best chance of passing your bar exam the first time." www.barbri.com/

Barpassers

BarPassers Bar Review is a diverse bar review company delivering innovative programs to California law students and bar exam candidates. First introduced in 1985, BarPassers uses materials and techniques developed over the past 25 years. <http://barpassers.com/>

PMBR

PMBR teaches essential MBE strategies and techniques. PMBR teaches nuances and subtle distinctions which are now common on the MBE. PMBR simulates actual MBE testing conditions. www.pnbr.com/

LIBRARY RESOURCES

Bar Review Study Aids

Barbri Bar Review: Professional Responsibility. BarBri Bar Review, 2005. (Course Reserve, Call# KF 388 .B371 2005.)

Barbri Bar Review: California. BarBri Bar Review, 2005. (Course Reserve, Call# KF303 B37 2005.)

Barbri Bar Review: Multistate. BarBri Bar Review, 2005. (Course Reserve, Call# KF303 B37 2005.)

Strategies & Tactics for the MBE. Kimm Walton & Steve Emanuel. Aspen Publishers, 2003. (Course Reserve, Call# KF 303 .W345 2003.)

Past Bar Exam Questions and Answers

Recent California Bar Examinations and Sample Answers – Essays and Performance:
www.calbar.ca.gov/state/calbar/calbar_home.jsp (To access, click on About the Bar, Bar Exam, Examination Results/Statistics, and then Examination Statistics/Selected Answer/Study Aids).
Bound copies of past exams since 1932 are in Open Reserve, Call# KF303 .C3.

Past real MBE and MPRE questions from the NCBE available for sale at
www.ncbex.org/pubs/studyaids.htm

Multistate Bar Examination Questions. National Conference of Bar Examiners. Bound copies of past exams since 1986 are in Open Reserve, Call# KF303 .N38.

Select Books

The Bar Exam in a Nutshell, by Suzanne Darrow-Kleinhaus (2003) KF 303 .D37 in Law Open Reserve.

Comprehensive guide to bar admission requirements. American Bar Association, Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar and National Conference of Bar Examiners.
KF302.A15 C66 in Law Open reserve. Also available at
www.abanet.org/legaled/publications/compguide2005/compguide2005.html

Formula for success: The Psychological and Informational Handbook for Passing the Bar Exam, Herrera, Jennifer. KF 303.H472 1999 in Law Open Reserve

Summary of research on the multistate bar examination, Klein, Stephen.
Law Stacks, Call# KF303 .K58 1993

You Can Pass Any Bar Exam, by Edna Wells Handy (1997). KF 303 .H36 in Law Open Reserve.

Articles

“The Bar Exam: Why Students Fail,” Edna Wells Handy, 11 National Bar Association Magazine 17 (December 1997)

"Essay: Turning Novices Into Experts: Honing Skills for the Performance Test," by Barbara M. Anscher (2001) 24 Hamline Law Review 224.

"Legal Learning for Bar Candidates - Bar Exam" by Carolyn Nygren, (Findlaw) (www.findlaw.com/studyskills/3_bar_candidates.html).

"Note: Do We Need the Bar Exam? A Critical Evaluation of the Justifications for the Bar Examination and Proposed Alternatives," by Daniel R. Hansen (1995) 45 Case Western Law Review 1191.

"Teaching in the Shadow of the Bar," by Joan Howarth (1997) 31 University of San Francisco Law Review 927.

INTERNET RESOURCES

California State Bar Examiners: www.calbar.ca.gov/state/calbar/calbar_home.jsp (To access, click on About the Bar, Bar Exam, Examination Results/Statistics, and then Examination Statistics/Selected Answer/Study Aids)

Multistate Bar Examination: www.ncbex.org/

Other States Bar Examinations: www.barbri.com/ (Click on the state from the drop-down menu.)

For Further Information Consult a Librarian

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<http://www.ggu.edu/lawlibrary>