Passing the Bar: A Quick Reference Guide For Today’s Law Student

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Preface

This book is designed to give you some advice for passing the Uniform Bar Exam (UBE). However, it will still be very useful even if you are taking a state’s bar exam that is not the UBE. The core concepts of exam preparation and exam taking are transferable across bar exams. This guidance has been compiled from several years of providing bar exam support to hundreds of students. It is based off of trends that the author has seen, as well as best practices from legal education generally, and bar exam study more specifically.

You have probably heard contradictory advice. You have probably heard from someone that the bar exam is not a big deal and you don't have to do much in your first month of bar study. You have probably met someone who told you that they barely studied, or that all you have to worry about is doing well on the MBEs (the multiple-choice questions). You may have heard someone tell you that you do not need to take a bar review course, or watch lectures. Alternatively, you have also probably heard someone tell you that bar study is all-consuming and you therefore cannot take any breaks at all for ten full weeks. All of these statements are dangerous and misleading.

This book is not based on anecdotes. While there are always exceptions, you can't count on being an exception. Most people work really hard to pass the bar exam. They pour their hearts, souls, and considerable money into the endeavor. If you want the best chance of passing the bar exam on the first try, you will too. That said, you’re also a human being, and turning into a robot who is all-consumed by bar study for 2.5 months, is not a healthy study strategy.

Hopefully, these tips will make your study period more productive, and a bit less stressful. There is also a companion blog available at <https://passingthebar.blog/>, which you can subscribe to for more immediate updates and advice during the bar study period.

Why is this a quick reference guide? Frankly, because you already have a lot of other stuff to read. Whether you’re finishing up law school or already in the midst of bar study, you have a lot coming at you. This book was designed to provide quick and simple advice to get you through this stressful period.

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