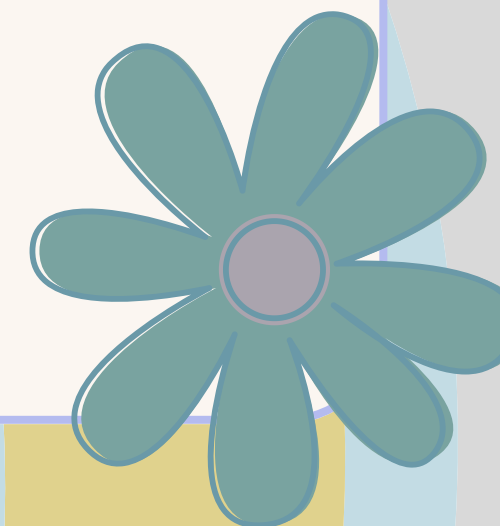




# ROAD TO ESQ.

Presented by:

Gaby Sferra, Kymberley Walcott-Aggrey,  
Eric Wagner, and Maria Budis



# Gaby Sferra

- ◆ Phone number: 440-537-0732
- ◆ Email address: [gabrielle.sferra21@stjohns.edu](mailto:gabrielle.sferra21@stjohns.edu)
- ◆ After graduation, I will be working at Jackson Lewis and hope to transition to entertainment and production counsel.
- ◆ I worked on documentaries prior to law school
- ◆ My favorite of all the bar-tested classes were Civil Procedure, Con Law, & Trusts & Estates.



# Kym Walcott-Aggrey

◆ Phone number: (917) 500-5370

◆ Email address:

kymberley.walcottaggrey21@my.stjohns.edu

◆ After graduation, I will be working at Bond Schoeneck & King. I am primarily interested in litigation, but I am open to exploring other areas at the firm

◆ My favorite bar-tested classes at SJU were Torts and Trust & Estates

◆ Fun Fact: I was born in Jamaica (the island) and lived there for the first 10 years of my life :)

# Maria Budis

- ✦ Phone number: (917) 579-0495
- ✦ Email address: maria.budis21@stjohns.edu
- ✦ After graduation, I will be working at Davis Polk in their Corporate Department.
- ✦ My fun fact is that I can speak Greek.
- ✦ My favorite of all the bar-tested classes at SJU was Contracts & Trusts & Estates.





# Eric Wagner

◆ Phone number: 631-383-3200

◆ Email address: Eric.Wagner21@stjohns.edu

◆ After graduation, I will be working at Fried Frank and hope to work in the litigation department.

◆ My fun fact is that I've worked in every level of government (federal, state, county, town).

◆ My favorite of all the bar-tested classes at SJU were Contracts and Con Law.

# Professor Rachel Paras



- Senior Director of Bar Preparation at SJU & Adjunct Professor at the law school!
- Email: [parasr@stjohns.edu](mailto:parasr@stjohns.edu)
- Great resource if you have questions about anything bar-related!
- You will see plenty of emails from her about the MPRE, NYLE, and Bar Prep when the time comes She also teaches the bar prep workshops the summer you graduate



# Matthew Mundo

- BARBRI Senior Director of Legal Education
  - covers SJU as well as some other NY schools
  - (but he likes St. John's best 😊)
- You may have seen him tabeling in September
- The person to reach out to if you are ever having an issue with your BARBRI account or need something specifically BARBRI related!
- Email: [matthew.mundo@barbri.com](mailto:matthew.mundo@barbri.com)







**94%**

**St. John's University School  
of Law's Bar Passage Rate**

# **PART I**

**How to Use BARBRI to Help You  
During the Semester**

# 1L/ Upper-Level Mastery BARBRI Material

- This is a great resource you now have full access to as part of your tuition! Take advantage of it!
- Multiple components—you have access to both a book of outlines as well as lecture videos, practice multiple choice questions, and practice essays for all covered subjects
- BARBRI content covers all of the BAR TESTED 1L and upper-class subjects but in a way geared toward helping you do well on the finals for your substantive classes
- if anyone needs a 1L book, let Gaby know!

# Barbri Outlines

01

Great for when you are confused about a specific point/ area of the law you are covering in class and want to look it up in an easy-to-access format!

02

They contain general black letter law (majority and minority rules) but remember they are NOT geared to NY Law



**Hint:** make sure you always study the NY statutes professors give you in class--they love to test on them

03

They come in a large physical book and in .pdf format on the BARBRI website –lmk if you need a copy of the physical books!



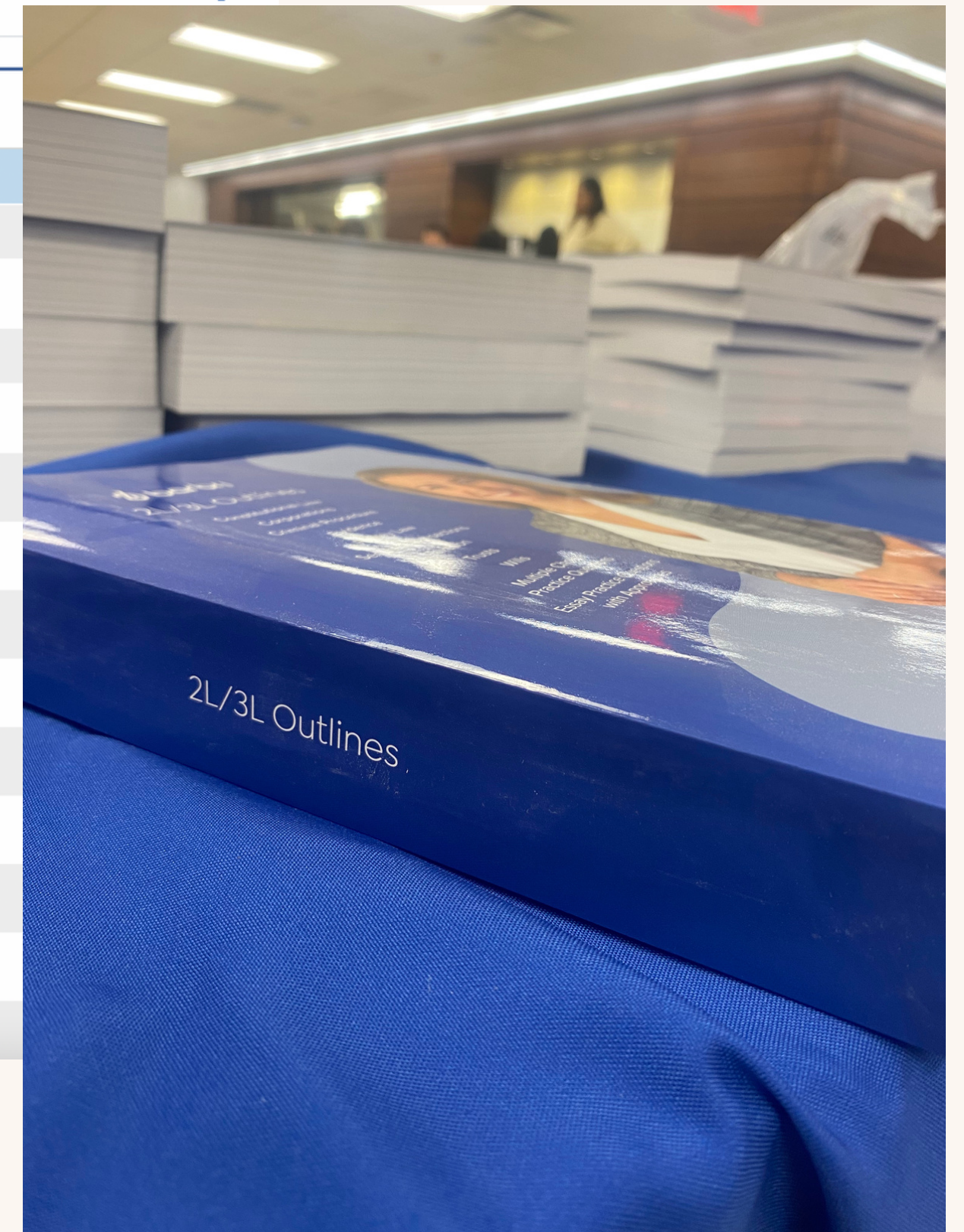
# Barbri Outlines

barbri 1L mastery



## My Assignments

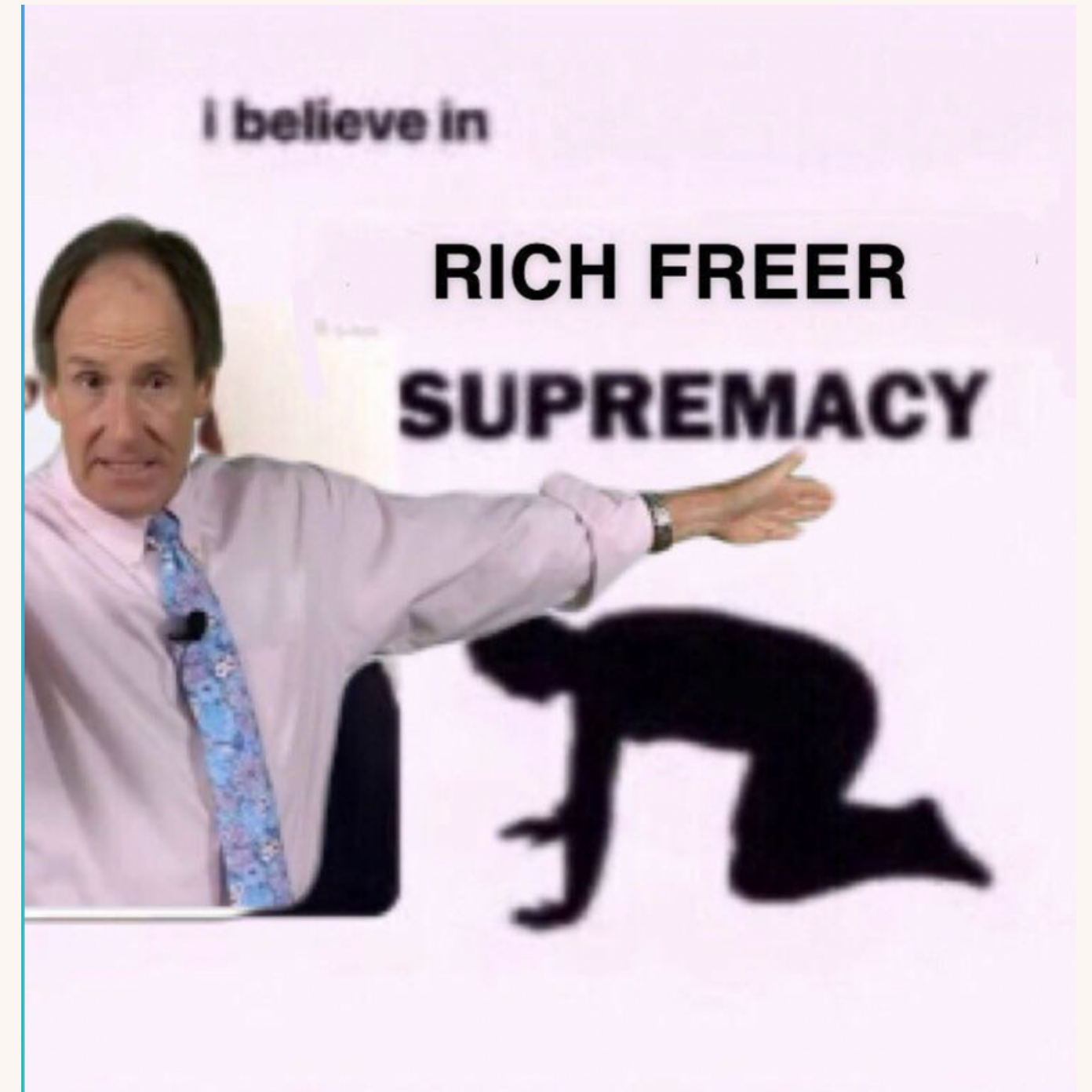
Type	Progress	Title	Format
1L Outline Volume			
	<input type="radio"/>	<a href="#">First Year Outlines - Full Volume</a>	Online
Civil Procedure			
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	<input type="radio"/>	<a href="#">Civil Procedure Module 3: Notice, Service of Process, and Opportunity To Be Heard</a>	Online
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Civil Procedure Module 4: Subject Matter Jurisdiction</a>	Online
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Civil Procedure Module 5: Venue</a>	Online
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Civil Procedure Module 5: Venue Learning Questions</a>	Online
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Civil Procedure Module 6: Erie Doctrine</a>	Online
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Civil Procedure Module 6: Subject Matter Jurisdiction and Erie Doctrine Learning Questions</a>	Online





# 1L Lecture Videos

- Civil Procedure
- Contracts
- Criminal Law
- Property
- Torts
- Constitutional Law
  - Covers both 1L Con Law & CRCL



# Upper Level Mastery Videos

- Corporations (aka Bus. Orgz.)
- Criminal ProcedureCrim Pro  
Investigation/Adjudication
- Evidence
- Family law
- Secured Transactions
- Taxation
- Wills & Trusts (aka Trusts & Estates)



# WHY?

01

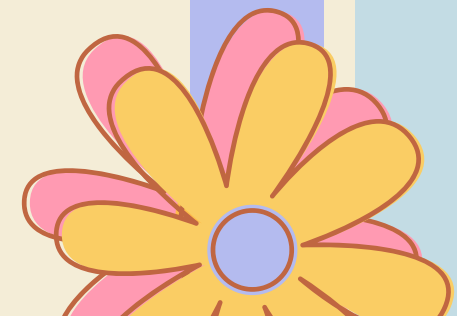
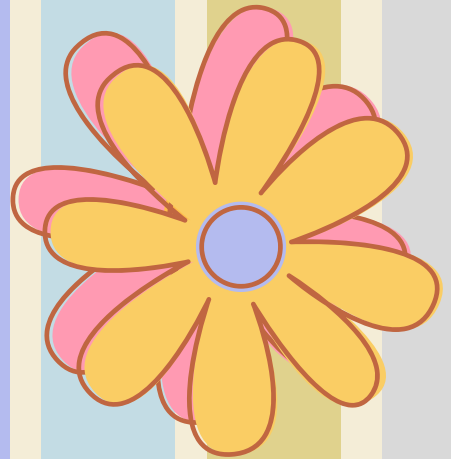
The lectures are great for when it is a week before the final and you have absolutely no idea what is going on in a class

02

Convenient—you can put them on your phone to listen to while you're commuting, etc.

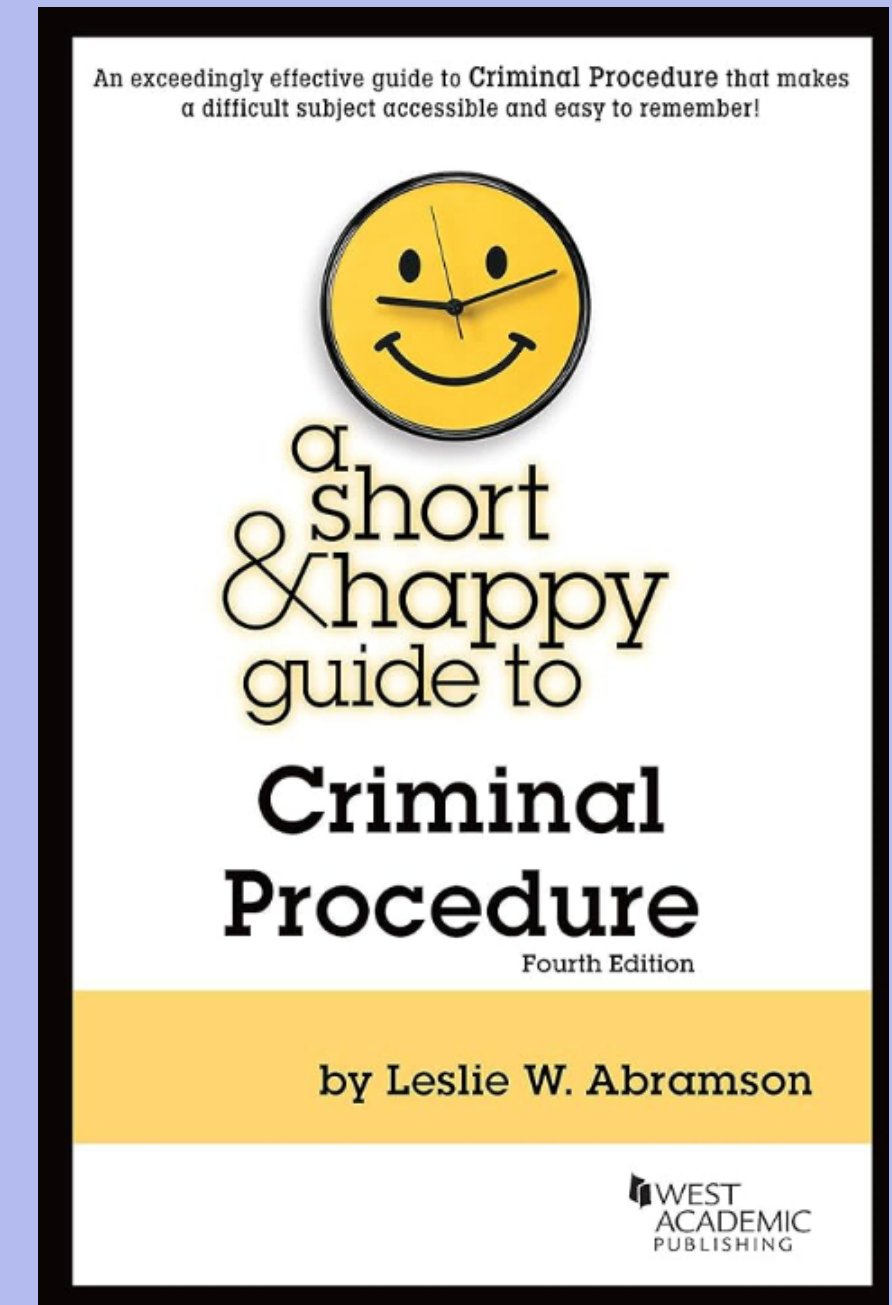
03

Great intro for what the actual bar prep lecture videos are like!



# Other Resources

- The West Academic Study Aids Collection is now available to all St. John's Law students for free!
- What's included?
  - Study aids for 1L and 2L/3L subjects
  - Audio lectures
  - Video lectures
  - Hornbooks and treatises
  - Case summaries
  - Outlines
  - Exam Preparation



# How To Sign Up

**Option 1:** Users can access all of the material on the platform through the library by using the SJU single sign-on

**Option 2:** Create an individual account to the platform and tailor it to your needs. Creating a West Academic account allows you to annotate, save favorites, listen to audio lectures, download titles for offline access, and more.



## Option 2 Details

- Go to [subscription.westacademic.com](https://subscription.westacademic.com)
- Click 'Create an Account' in the upper right-hand corner. Follow the prompts.
- Once you create an account you will be automatically logged in
- Verify your email address by clicking on your name in the upper right-hand corner and go to "My Account." Enter your school or work email address under "My School/Organization" Click "Check for Materials" and check your email for a verification link.
- Once you have verified your email address you can access all the content available in your subscription and you can log-in independently from your school's network.

# **PART II**

**What Classes Should You Be Taking  
During School to Prepare for the Bar  
Exam?**

# Bar Dates

Test Date	Registration Window
February 27 - 28, 2024	November 1 - 30, 2023
July 30 - 31, 2024	April 1 - 30, 2024
February 25 - 26, 2025	November 1 - 30, 2024
July 29 - 30, 2025	April 1 - 30, 2025



# Bar Path

*1 Year*



## MPRE

you can take the MPRE  
anytime up to 4 years of  
taking the Bar



## NYLE

Must take the NYLE  
within 1 year of sitting  
for the Bar



## Bar Exam

February 2024  
July 2024  
February 2025  
July 2025  
February 2026  
July 2026

# Bar Tested Subjects

<p>FIRST MPT 1.5 HOURS</p> <p>SECOND MPT 1.5 HOURS</p> <p><u>20%</u></p>	<p>0 – 100 Questions <u>25%</u></p> <p>1- EVIDENCE 2- REAL PROPERTY 3- CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE 4- CONSTITUTIONAL LAW 5- CIVIL PROCEDURE 6- TORTS 7- CONTRACTS</p>
<p>MEE – 6 ESSAYS <u>30%</u></p> <p>The seven subjects of the MBE plus:</p> <p>AGENCY AND PARTNERSHIPS TRUST WILLS AND ESTATES CORPORATIONS FAMILY LAW CONFLICT OF LAWS SECURED TRANSACTION</p>	<p>100 – 200 Questions <u>25%</u></p> <p>1- EVIDENCE 2- REAL PROPERTY 3- CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE 4- CONSTITUTIONAL LAW 5- CIVIL PROCEDURE 6- TORTS 7- CONTRACTS</p>

# Bar Tested Subjects

# Day 1: Essay Day

## **3 Hrs: 2 MPT Tests**

- Closed Universe
  - Write a Legal Memo, Brief, etc.
- 

## **3 Hrs: MEE - 6 Essays on:**

- *Evidence*
- *Real Property*
- *Crim Law*
- *Crim Pro*
- *Con Law*
- *Civ Pro*
- *Torts*
- *Contracts*
- Agency and Partnerships
- Trusts, Wills, and Estates
- Corporations
- Family Law
- Conflict of Laws
- Secured Transactions

# Day 2: Multiple Choice

- Evidence
  - Real Property
  - Crim Law
  - Crim Pro
  - Con Law
  - Civ Pro
  - Torts
  - Contracts
- 

**3 Hours; 100 Questions**

- Evidence
- Real Property
- Crim Law
- Crim Pro
- Con Law
- Civ Pro
- Torts
- Contracts

**3 Hours; 100 Questions**



# Therefore:

**You should take any and all of the bar tested subject courses that we offer at St. Johns that you can fit into your schedule!!**



# Popular Scheduling Myths

- ***"Non-bar tested subject courses are easier to get an A in"***
  - Not always true—sometimes it is actually harder because you can't ride the curve with fewer students
- ***"Paper courses are less work because you don't have to take a final"***
  - In a lot of paper courses, your final paper has to be 30+ pages long and may be due before finals even typically start
- ***"My friend didn't study for the bar exam/only studied for a week/etc. and still passed"***
  - Not only is this a false statement 99.9% of the time, why would you want to take that risk? You are gambling with your career you have worked so hard for

# The Truth of It

- Employers often prefer to see on your transcript that you have taken universally recognized bar-tested subject courses that challenged you over “easier” niche subject courses & like to ask about them in interviews
- You really need to know the rules of Evidence no matter what type of lawyer you become!
- If you take the course now and you are confused/struggling, you have already identified a weak area you need to focus on for the bar AND you have more of an opportunity to ask the professor questions

# **PART III**

## **The MIPRE & The NYLE – What You Should Know**

# The MPRE

- At its core, an ethics exam that tests your knowledge of the ABA Model Rules of Professional Responsibility & their comments
- Required in every state except for Wisconsin and Puerto Rico
- Two-hour, 60-question multiple-choice examination that is administered three times per year
- Don't believe the people that tell you you don't have to study for it! Goes beyond Pro Ro!!



# The MPRE

- Passing score varies by jurisdiction:
  - In NY, the scaled score you have to get is an 85
  - Make sure you check for the jurisdiction you are entering!
- Test is curved to help ensure that you are not unfairly penalized (or rewarded) for taking a more (or less) difficult version of the exam
  - To pass in NY you need to aim to get about 30/50 of the GRADED questions correct to achieve a score of 85 ~estimate
- 10 of the 60 questions are “test” questions that are not graded -but there is no way to know which are which

# MPRE COURSE

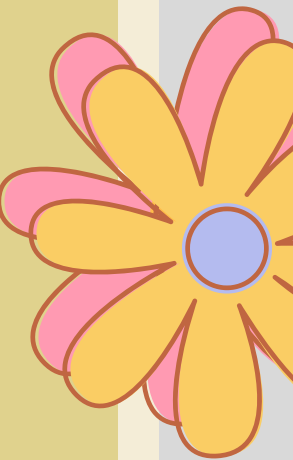


Even though the MPRE course is free to everyone and part of your overall BARBRI package, you still have to **enroll** to get access to the materials!

Use the following link, scroll to the bottom of the page, and hit “Enroll Now” <https://www.barbri.com/mpre-review/#enroll>

# Prepping for the MPRE

- Make sure that you sign up to take Professional Responsibility in your 2L year—it is a **requirement at SJU**
- **STRONGLY CONSIDER** taking the MPRE while you are enrolled in Pro Ro even if in the middle of the semester –it will be so much easier
  - Definitely recommend taking as a 2L
- Use the BARBRI MPRE course to study!
  - BARBRI course is taught as if you had never taken Pro Ro



# MIPRE Test Dates

Test Date	Apply for Accommodations By:	Registration Deadline
November 2 or 3, 2023	July 24, 2023	September 12, 2023
March 26 or 27, 2024	December 5, 2023	January 25, 2024
August 13 or 14, 2024	April 24, 2024	June 12, 2024
November 7 or 8, 2024	July 24, 2024	September 18, 2024

# The NYLE

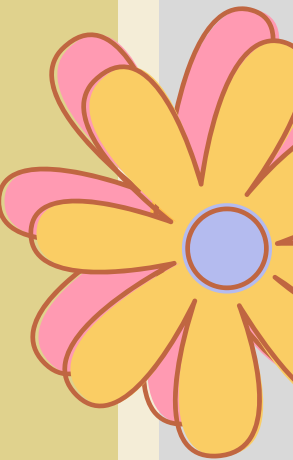
- Another standardized test you must take (but only if you want to be admitted in NY)
- 50 question, two-hour exam that tests on the basics of NY specific law
- You must take the New York Law Course before you can register to take the NYLE
  - 17 hours of video lectures with multiple choice questions
- The exam itself is administered on Examsoft and (almost) all the answers come from the materials provided to you as part of the NYLC packet

# The NYLE tests

- Administrative Law
- Business Relationships
- Civil Practice and Procedure
- Conflict of Laws
- Contracts
- Criminal Law and Procedure
- Evidence
- Matrimonial and Family Law
- Professional Responsibility
- Real Property
- Torts and Tort Damages
- Trusts, Wills and Estates

# When to take the NYLE

- You cannot take the NYLE until you are a 3L because you are only allowed to take it within one year before when you sit for the bar exam OR any time **after** you sit for the bar exam
- However, do you really want to be taking another 50-question exam after you've just done the entire bar exam? Chances are you're going to want that time to relax before you have to start your real lawyer job





# Just Know...

- Electronically searching the Course Materials while taking the NYLE by using a searchable version of the Course Materials is a **violation** of **Board Rule 6000.13** and may result in penalties including nullification of your registration for the NYLE, nullification of your NYLE score, a period of suspension from repeating the NYLE, and disclosure of your misconduct to the Appellate Division in New York having jurisdiction over your application for admission and to other jurisdictions.
- However, you are allowed to either print the packet and physically search through it or have a second device and scroll through the document. That being said, you cannot convert the document to be searchable, as that is a violation of the above code.



# **If You Are a Current 2L**

You will be eligible to take the NYLC beginning on July 30, 2024 because your bar exam will be on July 29 - 30, 2025.

# NYLE Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline
Thursday, December 14, 2024	Tuesday, November 14, 2023
Thursday, April 11, 2024	Tuesday, March 12, 2024
Thursday, September 19, 2024	Tuesday, August 20, 2024
Thursday, December 19, 2024	September 18, 2024

# **PART IV**

## **Graduating & Getting Accepted to the Bar**

# Graduation Requirements @ SJU

- 89 Credits
  - 36 in required courses (1L year classes, plus the 5/6 of the following courses: Evidence, Business Organizations, Tax Law, Civil Rights & Civil Liberties, Administrative Law, & Trusts & Estates);
  - 53 in elective offerings
- Broken into semesters following your 1L (31 hours)
  - 58 credit hours need to be split between 4 semesters.
  - Split evenly, you'd have 14-15 credit hours per semester.
  - Keep in mind that 16 credit hours per semester is the max.
  - Credit allocation includes pre-sessions.

# 1L

- Introduction to Law (2 cr.)
- Civil Procedure (4 cr.)
- Contracts (4 cr.)
- Torts (4 cr.)
- Legal Writing I (2 cr.)
- Professional Development
  
- Lawyering\* (2 cr.)
- Property (4 cr.)
- Criminal Law (3 cr.)
- Constitutional Law (4 cr.)
- Legal Writing II (2 cr.)
- Professional Development

**31 Credits**

# 2L

- Legal Research (1 cr.) (**Fall**)
- Professional Responsibility
- Some students only, if notified
  - Advanced Analytical Skills
  - Advanced Contracts
    - Advanced Practice Writing Requirement.
    - Applied Skills Requirement.
    - Scholarly Writing
    - Administrative Law (3 cr.)
    - Business Organizations (4 cr.)
    - Civil Rights & Civil Liberties (4 cr.)
    - Evidence (4 cr.)
    - Taxation (3 cr.)
    - Trusts and Estates (4 cr.)

**29 Credits**

# 3L

- Some Students only if notified:
  - Applied Legal Analysis I and II

**29 Credits**

***Plus....***

# For NY State Bar Acceptance

## **MANDATORY 50-HOUR PRO BONO REQUIREMENT**

Beginning in January 2013, a new rule affecting bar admission in New York will be in effect. All candidates seeking admission after January 1, 2015, with the exception of admission on motion candidates, will need to file documentation showing that they have completed 50 hours of qualifying pro bono work, as required by [Rule 520.16 of the Rules of the Court of Appeals](#). For further information regarding the implementation and requirements of the new rule, Frequently Asked Questions, and the Form Affidavit of Compliance that must be filed with your Application for Admission please visit <http://www.nycourts.gov/attorneys/probono/baradmissionreqs.shtml>. The FAQs contain information on the web address and toll free telephone number in the event that you have an inquiry.





# What counts as pro bono work?

- Must be **law-related** and **supervised** by an attorney, judge, or law school faculty or instructor in order to qualify.
- Internships with a broad range of organizations including
  - legal services providers;
  - public defender and prosecutor offices;
  - not-for-profit organizations;
  - state, local, or federal government agencies or legislative bodies;
  - judges or court systems can all count if the work is law-related and supervised
- Pro bono work at a law firm can qualify as long as no fee is being paid
- Many, though not all law school clinics qualify.
- **You are allowed to receive funding or academic credit for qualifying pro bono work and still satisfy the requirement.**

# When should you do your 50 hours?

- ASAP!!!!!! You need to have it done when you apply to the bar
- If you already worked for a qualifying employer, you just need to take this affidavit back to them (**AFTER GETTING IT NOTARIZED**) and fill it out
  - Link to affidavit:  
[https://ww2.nycourts.gov/sites/default/files/document/files/2021-01/F-Bar\\_Admissions-Pro%20Bono%20Requirements.pdf](https://ww2.nycourts.gov/sites/default/files/document/files/2021-01/F-Bar_Admissions-Pro%20Bono%20Requirements.pdf)
- If you need to find a way to get these hours, reach out to the **Public Interest Center** who can help you find a way to meet the requirement

# character & fitness

- get familiar with the NY BOLE website
- you WILL need to know everywhere you worked during law school and get signatures from employers attesting to your working at the firm/company/etc.
- disclose EVERYTHING



The screenshot shows the top portion of the New York State Board of Law Examiners website. On the left is the official seal of the State of New York. To its right, the text reads: "The New York State Board Of Law Examiners" in yellow, followed by "Corporate Plaza, Building 3 - 254 Washington Avenue Extension Albany, NY 12203-5195" in white. Further right, contact information is listed: "office (518) 453-5990", "fax (518) 452-5729", "TTY: Call 711 (nyrelay.com)", and "Phone Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm Eastern Time". Below this is a navigation menu with links: "BOLE Home", "BOLE Account", "UBE / NYLC / NYLE FAQ's", "Admission Information", "Application by Transferred UBE Score", "Bar Exam Eligibility", "Bar Exam Information", and "Bar Exam Statistics". The main content area features the heading "The New York State Board of Law Examiners" and a paragraph: "Operating under the auspices of the New York State Court of Appeals, the New York State Board of Law Examiners is responsible for administering the bar examination to candidates seeking admission to practice law in the State of New York." To the right of this text is a photograph of a classical building with a fountain in front.

*ugliest website of all time, besides UIS*

## [Instructions](#)

[Part I Application](#) (Updated April 3, 2023)

[Part II Moral Character](#)

[Part III Law Related Employment](#)

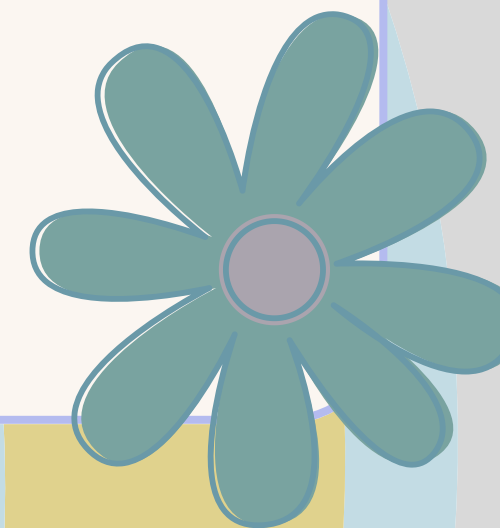
[Part IV Form Law School Certificate](#)

[50 Hour Pro Bono Requirement](#)

[Skills Form Affidavit](#) (Updated March 2020)

[Pro Bono Scholars Program Affidavit of Completion](#)

**QUESTIONS?**





GOOD

LUCK