

# Helping Students Prepare for the Bar Exam

When it comes preparing for the bar exam, Richmond Law provides a variety of resources to help students ensure they're ready for this important moment in their legal career.

Here's how we help:

## CURRICULUM

Bar exam preparation is infused into the Richmond Law curriculum from the very beginning. To train students to start thinking about the bar exam early in their studies, our students take a "minibar" assessment near the end of their fall and spring 1L semesters, with multi-choice questions that are similar in style to those that appear on the Multistate Bar Examination. In addition to many courses that cover topics related to the bar exam, we offer several specially-designed courses that provide extensive feedback and opportunities for students to practice skills essential to bar exam success.

## ACADEMIC SUCCESS PROGRAM

Directed by [Professor Krishnee Coley](#), the Academic Success Program is designed to empower students to maximize their potential for success in law school and beyond. The goal is to help students make the transition to law school easier by providing guidance about how to properly prepare for, engage in, and reflect upon their law school classes. Professor Coley also provides individual counseling to students in any year of law school.

## BAR PREPARATION PROGRAM

Directed by [Professor Emmeline Reeves](#), the Bar Preparation Program includes:

- **Supplemental Bar Preparation Course**

A free, not-for-credit course offered in the spring of 3L year and available to all 3L students. The course provides a substantive review of subjects tested on the Multistate Bar Exam as well as intensive test-taking instruction for both the multiple-choice and essay portions of the bar exam.

- **For-Credit Courses**

During law school, specific for-credit courses designed to prepare students for success on the bar exam are offered.

- **Individual Bar Tutoring**

Tutoring focuses on essay-writing skills and substantive law in all the subjects tested on the Virginia bar examination and the Uniform Bar Exam.

- **Practice Essays**

During the summer, graduates are offered the opportunity to practice writing a bar essay in exam conditions and receive real-time feedback.

- **Faculty Bar Coach Program**

During the summer, graduates are offered the opportunity to select a faculty member to serve as a coach. Faculty bar coaches stay in regular contact with their advisees to ensure they are on track, connect them with resources as needed, and offer general support as they study.

- **Informational Sessions**

Throughout the year, informational sessions on character & fitness investigations and bar exam preparation are offered.

### **FREE INTENSIVE BAR REVIEW BOOT CAMP**

Immediately following graduation, we host a free Intensive Bar Review Boot Camp to help students jumpstart their commercial bar prep. This workshop is focused on developing skills and strategies for succeeding on the Multistate Bar Exam. Students have several opportunities to complete multiple-choice question practice sets on frequently tested issues in three heavily-tested topics. Practice is followed by a discussion and deconstruction of fact-patterns and answer choices to help students issue spot and apply rules to arrive at the correct conclusion. On day two of the workshop, students have the opportunity to take a MBE diagnostic practice exam.

### **INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING**

The law school retains a licensed therapist through the university's Counseling and Psychological Services who maintains office hours in the law school building. Counseling is available during the academic year and during the bar prep period.

### **DEDICATED STUDY SPACES**

During the bar prep period, graduates have full access to dedicated quiet study spaces in the law school, including the option to reserve carrels in the law library.