The New York Bar Exam

Harvard Law School
March 8, 2016
Application

- Must apply in April
- Laptops
- Residency
Grading Details on Exam

**UBE Portion**

- Minimum Score = 266
- Graded by NY BOLE based on NCBE grading rubric

**Certifying Requirements**

- MPRE
- NYLE
  - Minimum Score = 30/50
  - Multiple-choice
  - 120 minutes

Students must pass **BOTH PORTIONS** of the exam
UBE at a Glance

DAY 2: MBE 50% OF TOTAL SCORE

DAY 1: 6 ESSAYS 30% OF TOTAL SCORE

DAY 1: 2 MPTS 20% OF TOTAL SCORE

- Contracts
- Constitutional Law
- Criminal Law & Procedure
- Evidence
- Federal Civil Procedure
- Property
- Torts
## Written Portion: Old v. New

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Old NY Written Portion</th>
<th>New NY Written Portion</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Essays</strong></td>
<td><strong>Essays</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- 5 Essays</td>
<td>- 6 Essays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 40 – 45 minutes each</td>
<td>- 30 minutes each</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Multi-subject</td>
<td>- Typically single-subject</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Written by NY BOLE</td>
<td>- Written by NCBE</td>
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<tr>
<td>- 4 – 5 issues</td>
<td>- 3 – 4 issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- NY law</td>
<td>- Multi-state law</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MPT</strong></td>
<td><strong>MPT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- 1 MPT</td>
<td>- 2 MPTs</td>
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</tbody>
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Test Change Impact: Substantive Impact

Subjects will change

**NY Essay & Multiple-Choice**
- MBE Topics: Constitutional Law, Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Evidence, Real Property and Torts
- NY distinctions
- CPLR
- Corporations
- Agency & Partnership
- Wills and Estates
- Trusts
- Family Law
- Administrative Law
- UCC Art. 9
- Professional Resp.
- Worker’s Comp/No-fault

**MEE**
- Constitutional Law
- Contracts
- Criminal Law/Procedure
- Evidence
- Real Property
- Torts
- Federal Civil Procedure
- Corporations
- Agency & Partnership
- Wills/Estates
- Trusts
- Family Law
- UCC Art. 9
- Conflicts
Test Change Impact: Change to the MEE
Now will be six essays rather than five; thirty minutes rather than forty-five

- Less time → better time management
- Fewer issues & single-subject → deeper analysis
- Multi-state law → understanding of broader legal concepts (less focus on NY rules and distinctions)
- More open-ended prompts → issue-spotting becomes more important
Change to MEE: Impact on Student Differences in Preparation

- Almost always single-subject. Therefore, the focus is the correct rule and strong analysis.
- Essential that you answer the question. Emphasis on mirroring the call of the question.
- Time management and structure is key. With only 30 minutes, tightly written/structured answers with good use of transition words helps.
- MPT is now 20%. Therefore individual essays are also less important.
New York Law Course (NYLC)

- Free On Demand course teaching:
- Approx. 15 hours long
  - Questions embedded which must be answered
  - Available April 2016
- Apply using your BOLE ID
- Applicant may take the NYLC up to one year before sitting for the UBE or after
New York Law Exam (NYLE)

• 50 item, multiple choice exam, open book
  - 2 hours to complete
  - Uses Examsoft

• Offered 4 times per year. Dates in 2016:
  - May 26, 2016, 12:00 EST
  - August 18, 2016, 12:00 EST
  - October 13, 2016, 12:00 EST
  - December 15, 2016, 12:00 EST

• Must complete NYLC at least 30 days before the NYLE
  - Example: April 26 for the May 26 exam

• $27 fee
New York Pro Bono Requirement

• Rule: NY bar examinees must complete 50 hours of pro bono work
• Bar examinees can complete requirement after exam
• 50 hours does not need to be completed in New York
Character and Fitness

• New York is after you take the bar
• What if I am taking other states with New York?
  - NJ and MA do it before so save everything
• Err on the side of openness