

November 22, 2011

Having taken the bar prep programs offered by both Bar/Bri and Rigos, I can confidently state that the Rigos system is more concise and better organizes the substantive law with Magic Memory Outlines and acronyms that ease memorization, maximize retention and facilitate recall. Furthermore, the Seamless Process more effectively prepares students to take and pass the bar exam by providing a reasonable schedule of studying, memorization, and timed essay writing. Numerous simulated exam experiences and highly detailed, student-specific feedback for graded essays provide suggestions for improving writing style, cohesion, organization and analysis.

Although Bar/Bri's Guaranteed Success program purports to similarly prepare students, the program is unmanageable. Students must read through and outline vast amounts of material and promptly begin timed essay writing before the substantive law is firmly cemented. Students must also complete a ridiculous number of essays in compliance with a regimented schedule that has minimal value because Bar/Bri grades only a handful of essays and the feedback primarily focuses on issue spotting substantive law. I doubt if even 10% actually completed all this so the Bar/Bri marketing a high percentage seems to me to be quite misleading since this small group is not a reflection of what the vast majority of their students do.

The other really important difference, for me, was the idea of governing law statements. The Bar/Bri's essay writing "classes" don't provide or emphasize the importance and value of governing law statements or that students should always attempt to address a given number of issues per essay. From the beginning, Rigos makes sure that students understand how to write a strong governing law statement and why, and provides several boilerplate examples for each area of substantive law. Rigos also suggests that students strive to address a certain number of issues in any given essay to ensure the highest probability of writing a passing answer. I know that this not directly related to the differences between the Seamless Process and Guaranteed Success but I feel that it was a critical distinction that the Rigos graders drew my attention to when they reviewed my old answers from the previous exam.

Law students who choose Rigos will undoubtedly benefit from the program, hopefully with the same success I have found. Please contact with any further questions.

Cheers,
Abbie Kite

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