

Bar Passage Studies

Analysis of the bar exam results are conducted annually and are used by the Dean, Associate Dean and the Law Faculty to identify the areas of the law school's curriculum which may need enhancement and to identify the demographics of students who are in need of special attention.

There are two primary bar studies prepared: detailed analysis of the July Louisiana Bar Exam and a summary of all other states' bar exam results.

The detailed results of "first time takers" of the July Louisiana Bar Exam are organized by quartile and analyzed on the basis of final law school GPA, LSAT scores, and undergraduate GPA. These analyses provide insight into the factors that can be used to best predict student success in law school, assist the admissions process and to identify problems that may arise during the students' law studies.

Study of these analyses has identified potential problem areas and led to the following:

- Establishment of the Academic Success Program to provide supplemental assistance to students, especially to those students in the bottom quartile of the class who are generally the least successful on the bar exam

<http://law.loyno.edu/intranet/documents/AcademicSuccessProgram.doc>

- Establishment of the Legal Fellows Program which includes the hiring of six Fellows who teach the Legal Research and Writing Program to first year students

<http://law.loyno.edu/intranet/documents/MinutesNov2003.doc>

- Establishment of the Bar Exam Review sessions, held after Commencement, as a supplemental learning resource for those students participating in commercial bar preparation courses. The sessions, which are presented by members of the law faculty, are supplemented by a Blackboard web site which includes weekly study tips, handouts on each section of the bar exam and a communication section for students and teachers to discuss issues on-line. The bar results for first time takers have increased by 15 percentage points in the first year of the bar exam review operation.

<http://law.loyno.edu/intranet/documents/BarPrepBlackboardSite.pdf>