# Themis Bar Company Questionnaire

1. What was the July first-time bar pass rate for students who took your course in each of the last five years? How was it calculated?

### **Summer 2016:**

First time takers completing 75%+ of the course: 18/30 - 60%

#### **Summer 2015:**

First time takers completing 75%+ of the course: 21/27 - 77.8%

### **Summer 2014:**

First time takers completing 75%+ of the course: 27/34 - 79.4%

#### **Summer 2013:**

First time takers completing 75%+ of the course: 21/24 - 87.5%

### **Summer 2012:**

First time takers completing 75%+ of course: 8/10 - 80%

We calculate our pass rates by cross referencing with the State Bar exams pass list, and contacting each student if their name does not appear on that list, to verify their passage and confirm, if in fact they sat for the exam. If a student does not respond, we mark that student as failed on our list.

2. Briefly describe your approach to the lectures and practice exams. What distinguishes your approach from the approach taken by other bar preparation companies?

Lectures are in 20 minute chapters, vs. other business models of 4 hour lectures, in a classroom setting. Chapters are followed by short quizzes, another crucial part of our learning method, which reinforces materials learned. Research shows that students have limited cognitive resources and learn most effectively when those cognitive resources are protected and focused (Paas, Renkl, & Sweller, 2003). This allows for more memory retention and ability to process content. The 15-20 minute chapters work to avoid overwhelming students. Practice exam lectures and workshops are in this same format, providing guidance on the best approach to completing exams.

3. Briefly describe the extent to which you provide personalized feedback to students on practice exams, noting how many exam answers and performance tests you critique, how much feedback is provided, and your criteria for hiring graders. If available, please provide a sample of an essay answer with feedback.

A Dedicated Personal Grader provides students with detailed instruction on improving their writing. This is unique because Graders are able to avoid generic/canned feedback in their critiques, as they have followed each students' progress throughout the course. Comments are very thorough. Themis offers Unlimited Essay grading from exams within

our materials, and auto assigns for turn-in 7 essays, and 1 PT, throughout the course to encourage students to submit exams. Graders are licensed CA Attorneys who have been trained in our grading process. They receive guidelines and rubrics for each essay to assist with the grading of each exam.

4. Briefly describe the methods by which you permit students who take your course to self-assess.

A course progress feature, along with a suggested pace reminder helps students stay on track for completing the course. Students complete practice exams, for self-study or submission, which provides them with diagnostics and feedback regarding areas they need to focus on for improvement. Students are able to track the areas on the MBE where they are struggling, based on these diagnostics which provide a breakdown by question topic/subtopic. All Essays and PT's in the portal have Sample Answers available for review after submission of the exam is complete, so students can compare their answers for self-assessment.

5. How and where are lectures delivered? Do you offer live lectures, video lectures, online lectures or a combination? If your company offers live lectures, what are the locations of the live lectures?

Lectures are delivered online through the Themis portal or through the iPad or iPhone. The complete course is accessible for Early Start in November for the February exam, and in March for the July exam period. Students can also choose to begin their studies on the recommended start date by following the structured Themis study schedule. The lectures can be downloaded through the App for students who are mobile. It allows for multiple avenues of study for non-traditional students.

6. How much structure/flexibility is built into the study schedule you provide to students?

Our course works with students' individual time concerns in mind. Students can choose between Directed Study or Flex study, and can toggle back and forth based on their ability to complete daily assignments. Directed Study is a strict daily calendar meant to be followed closely, as you cannot move on to the next task until the previous one is completed. In Flex Mode students can complete assignments out of order or move ahead if they have more time. The schedule automatically shifts assignments to lighter days, if a student does not complete an assignment or misses a day of studies.

7. What is the source for your practice MBE, essay, and Performance Test questions?

All of our Essay and PT questions are previously released from the State Bar of California. Themis currently has a bank of over 3000 MBE questions. Hundreds of these questions are licensed from past bar exams. The remaining questions in the Themis bank are drafted by the Themis editorial team to simulate actual MBE questions in style, length, difficulty and frequency of issues tested on the bar exam.

8. What are the start and end dates of your course?

Themis is designed to be an 8-10 week course. The course opens early in March for the July exam, and November for the February exam. The recommended start date for students who do not wish to begin their studies early is typically the end of May for the July exam, or the end of December for the February exam. Lectures should be completed roughly 2 weeks before the exam, allowing for the last few weeks to review and hone in on the materials.

9. What is the cost of your course? What services and materials are included in that price?

Themis' list price for the general course is \$2095, plus \$30 shipping or \$1395, plus shipping for students who qualify for our Public Interest rate. We also have a Tech Package rate which includes the new Apple Ipad for \$2745. In general, we offer many organizational discounts, and promotions starting as low as \$1395 when students sign up early. The cost includes access to the complete course online, graded exams and simulated exams. There are 4 hardcopy books for Black Letter Law, Multiple Choice exams, and Performance Tests, as well as a book of lecture handouts to be completed with the lectures.

10. What are the consequences to a student who signs up with you but subsequently changes her mind about taking your course?

Cancellation is allowed any time before access to course. Refund eligibility is within five days receipt of printed materials, or within five days of availability of any online bar review content, whichever comes first. If less than 5% of course is completed, a student may receive a partial refund. Once books are received or online bar content is available, Themis will issue a refund of paid tuition funds, less shipping and \$100 per day up to the expiration of five day limit. No refunds are given after the five-day period, or once more than 5% of course content is completed.

11. Do you offer an early-bird course and, if so, do you charge for it? Is it open only to persons registered for the full review course?

Our Early Start course is available to all paid in full students, at no extra charge. It is open to only enrolled students.

12. Do you offer any guarantee regarding repetition of the course without charge or at a discounted rate, or any other type of guarantee, if a student does not pass the bar?

We offer a free repeat of the course for the next administration of the exam in the same jurisdiction. To be eligible, student (1) must have taken a full bar review course; (2) must have been a first-time Themis taker\*; (3) provide documentation that they sat for and were unsuccessful on the exam; and (4) must sit for next scheduled bar exam immediately following the course in the same jurisdiction. \*Students receiving the free

repeat do NOT receive new books. If a student requests a new set of materials, there is a cost for all books or individual books, as needed.

## 13. What accommodations do you offer for students with disabilities?

Themis Bar Review, LLC ("Themis") complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), including the provision of appropriate auxiliary aids and services to students with disabilities to ensure effective communication. Students are encouraged to contact us as early as possible to verify that we will meet their specific needs.