



Project PASS: *Shifting from a post-graduation bar exam preparation culture to bar readiness throughout matriculation.*

PRESENTED BY

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Project PASS Overview



- In late 2017, the College of Law launched the **Performance, Assessment and Strategic Support (PASS)** initiative.
- *Project PASS* represents our continued efforts to enhance student learning, while **strengthening** both the *core of the curriculum* and the overall *Program of Legal Education*.
- With a **comprehensive approach**, Project PASS has various phases, beginning as early as new student orientation and continuing through the post graduation bar exam preparation study period.



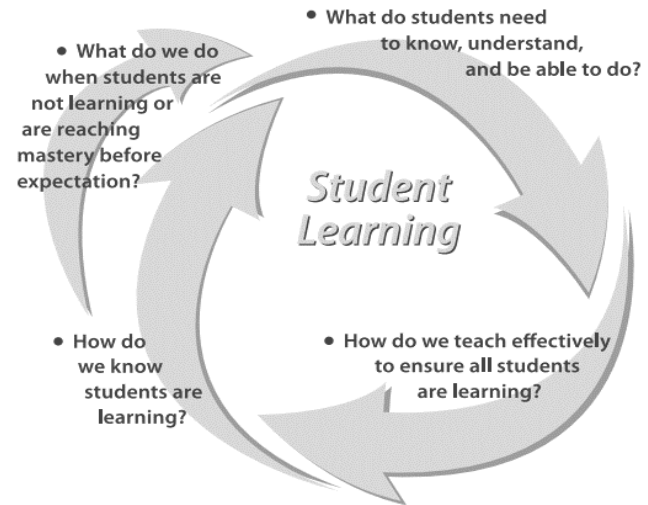


Project PASS Goals

- Enhance students' overall academic performance and experience, while optimizing their chances of *success on the bar exam*.
- Increase the use of *formative assessments*, not only in first-year courses, but *throughout* the curriculum.
- Create an infrastructure to ensure and measure each stage of the *Continuous Cycle of Student Learning*** is followed at the College of Law.

**Source: Better Lesson Plans

Continuous Cycle of Student Learning





Project PASS Summary

Goals & Objectives

- Increase the *first-time bar pass rate* for the College of Law
- Establish a *bar exam readiness* culture, starting the first day of law school
- Identify and provide additional assistance to *at-risk* students, early in matriculation
- Increase the use of *formative* and *summative assessments* and provide meaningful *feedback*
- Provide ongoing comprehensive *academic support* to students

Initiatives & Programming

- Summer Post-Admit Program
- Extended New Student Orientation
- Educational Partnership & Teaching Resources
- Academic Advising & Academic Enhancement Plans
- Small Sections for Designated First-year Course
- Increased Use of Diagnostics and Formative Assessments throughout Program of Legal Education





Summer Post-Admit Program

Goals & Objectives

Summer Comprehensive Academic Legal Enhancement (SCALE)

- **Reduce attrition rate** for cohort of students with *objectively quantifiable credentials* of concern by the ABA
- Familiarize and better prepare students to **succeed** in law school
- Expose students, **pre-matriculation**, to the **critical, analytical and study skills** necessary to be a successful law student
- Administer **diagnostics** to assess skills
- **Increase focus** on critical skills that are linked to **poor performance** on the Law School Admission Test (LSAT), in law school, and on the bar exam

Programming

- Aimed at *bottom* quartile of entering class
- FREE of charge for students
- 2-week program July 9-20, 2018
- Daily formative assessments
- Classes taught by faculty
- Critical reading, problem solving, reasoning, and law school study skills are taught
- Housing, meals, and book scholarship provided to participants
- Offer additional support services based on diagnostic results





Extended New Student Orientation

Goals & Objectives

Foundations for Law School Success: Bootcamp

- Identify *at-risk* students, *early* in matriculation
- Expose students to *critical skills* necessary to be successful law students
- Provide student services and academic workshops to aid in students' *transition* to law school
- Provide *early* exposure to the rigors of law school

Programming

- *Mandatory* for all new students
- Launched in Fall 2017
- Available August 1-13, 2018
- 10-day orientation
- Writing diagnostic and assessments administered
- Taught by faculty
- Grammar and writing skills, legal study skills, and critical and analytical skills taught





Educational Partnership & Resources

Goals & Objectives

- Provide up-to-date bar preparation materials designed to be *integrated* during law school, including *bar exam style questions*
- Access to *diagnostic tools* to aid in identifying upper-level students *at-risk* of failing the bar exam
- Access to *formative assessment tools* for both faculty and students
- Receive *real-time data* and *analytics* of student performance
- *Equip faculty* with bar exam style questions that can be *incorporated* directly into their courses and/or assigned to students for *additional practice and review*

Programming

- Partnered with BARBRI, a leading bar review provider
- 150 students completed Upper-level diagnostic in Spring 2018
- Faculty had access to question banks and other formative assessment tools and resources
- All students had access to practice questions, lectures and other review materials
- Collected data unique to COL students and shared with the faculty





Enhanced Academic Advising

Goals & Objectives

- Provide *one-on-one* course selection assistance, and group advising sessions
- *Target* students experiencing academic difficulty
- Serve as a *bridge* to tie both academic and non-academic programming and services
- Identify students in need of *strategic support* that may *not* have been previously identified by other measures

Programming

- Position created in Fall 2017
- Available to all students, special emphasis was placed on *at-risk* students (2.0-2.4)
- Every student on *academic probation* was required to meet with the advisor
- Students received customized Academic Enhancement Plan
- Student also assigned a faculty advisor at orientation





Small Section Course in First-Year

Goals & Objectives

- Enhance *student learning* by increasing the *interaction* between professor and student
- Increase the number and *quality* of formative assessments and feedback provided to first-year students
- Provides faculty a better opportunity to regularly *observe and assess* the progress of their students, both individually and collectively- which serves to *inform and enhance* their *teaching*

Programming

- First-year Torts sections had approximately 30 students, while other first-year courses had almost double that number
- Adding additional small section
- Aided students in identifying areas of concern, prior to the end of semester and/or final exam
- Multiple assessments, particularly quizzes and assignments were administered in the Torts courses
- Professors utilized additional teaching tools, including bar exam style questions





Additional Bar Preparation Support

Goals & Objectives

- Provide *supplemental bar preparation* study materials to students and graduates
 - Early Start Bar Review Material and Diagnostics
 - Released Multistate Bar Exam (MBE) Questions
 - Additional Practice Questions
 - Substantive Law Outlines
 - Review Lectures
 - Simulated Bar Exams
 - Progress Tracking
 - Live 2-day Review Lecture

Programming

- Partnered with Kaplan and AdaptiBar
- *Campaign #OneAndDone* was launched during the 2018 Spring semester for prospective May 2018 graduates
- Alums and *repeat* bar exam takers were invited to participate in *Campaign #RaiseTheBar*, prior to the start of the bar study period
- Both first-timers and repeaters were provided over 5,000 practice questions, including over 1,700 released bar questions, in addition to the other resources





Students Signed “I Pledge to PASS”

FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

**PROJECT
PASS** ✓

PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGIC SUPPORT





QUESTIONS

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