

Preparatory Courses at the University of Utah LSAT (Law School Admission Test)

This course is designed to help you do your best on the Law School Admission Test. Each section of the LSAT (essay writing, reading comprehension, logical reasoning, and analytical reasoning) is covered in depth. A diagnostic exam is given during the first class session to assess strengths and weaknesses. Extensive practice is then provided along with test taking strategies so that students can improve performance, increase test sophistication, and reduce test anxiety.

Although no preparation course can guarantee a high score or compensate for major gaps in knowledge, this course will give you the opportunity to improve your ability to pursue a legal education and sharpen the verbal and analytical skills essential to the study of law. A full-scale, proctored, final practice test will also be given; details to be announced.

PLEASE NOTE: Registration for graduate school admission exams is independent of any preparatory course.

Materials Used: *10 New Actual LSAT PrepTests w/Comparative Reading*
The Official LSAT SuperPrep
2 additional LSAT Practice Tests
June 2007 LSAT (pdf)
Course-specific supplemental materials

LSAT Preparatory Course Syllabus

Each class period will study two portions of the exam. Because this course is offered during two evenings per week or one Saturday per week, the weekly course scheduled will be adjusted accordingly. There will be lots and lots of in-class practice using only real LSAT questions. At-home study material will be assigned between classes.

Discussion Topics:

Overview

Introduction to the LSAT and LSAC: scoring, use by law school admissions committees, how to study, developing a personal study plan, etc. The first class period will include a $\frac{3}{4}$ length diagnostic test.

Analytical Reasoning (Games)

- I. General Approach
- II. Types of Games & How to Diagram Them
 - a. Sequencing
 - b. Grouping
 - c. Matching
 - d. Hybrid
- III. Question formats & LSAT lingo
 - a. Acceptability questions
 - b. Must be true/Could be True/Must be false
 - c. "complete and accurate"
- IV. The Contrapositive
- V. Improving Speed

- III. Question Types
- IV. Most Common Wrong Answers
- V. Improving Speed

Reading Comprehension

- I. General Approach
- II. Question Types
- III. Most Common Wrong Answers
- IV. Strategy for Reading Comprehension
- V. Comparative Reading
- VI. Improving Speed

Unscored Writing Sample

Introduction to purpose of writing sample, focus on how to organize essay, in-class practice.

Logical Reasoning

- I. General Approach
- II. Introduction to Arguments
 - a. Structure
 - b. How to attack an argument
 - c. Common logical flaws