

Legal Profession Admission Board

March 2021

Legal Ethics

Examiner's comments

The exam was comprised of four (4) compulsory questions – one of which was divided into four (4) parts of equal value. The number of questions permitted the examiners to cover many of the topics in the course and thus avoiding, as much as possible, detailed issues covered by the compulsory assignment.

The first question covered a specific topic and required candidates to not only be entirely familiar with that topic but to also be able to explain the historical progress of the subject issue.

The second question covered four (4) topics across a number of aspects of the course – some requiring consideration of more than one topic. There was a need for the candidate to express an opinion and justify it by reference to the material covered in the course.

Questions 3 and 4 required candidates to analyse both case law and legislation in order to *explain* and *critique* particular propositions.

In order to properly deal with the examination, the examiners had an expectation that candidates would have familiarized themselves with the entirety of the coursework – especially the assigned reading.

Although most candidates had a good grasp of the topics covered by the course, it was disappointing to note that some few students had failed to achieve their potential by succumbing to *selective revision*. Those candidates who did well usually did well in all questions. As has been frequently noted in past years, time management was an issue for some candidates.

109 candidates sat for the examination with a pass rate in excess of 92%. Over 50% of the candidates achieved a Credit or higher mark.

Although the overall marks may have been slightly higher than in recent examinations, especially the number who achieved marks in excess of 70%, the failure rate was, generally, consistent with recent exams.