

Legal Profession Admission Board

March 2024

Jurisprudence

Examiner's comments

General observations:

1. As in past examinations, all major topics in the course were covered in the examination questions, while some of these thematically overlapped with assigned essay questions, most did not – where there was overlap the exam questions had a slightly different focus. Students were asked to answer four of eight questions spread across and selected from the main lecture topics and without an indication of which topics would appear in the exam. Potential questions were put together by all members of the teaching team, in a more or less collaborative manner and roughly proportional to each member's teaching schedule, but final choice of questions and their specific formulation was determined by the examiner. It was thus imperative that candidates covered and were familiar with the full range of Prescribed Topics in their study for this unit.

2.1 It was the expectation of the examiner that candidates would be conversant with the commentary and lecture synopses in the Law Extension Committee's subject guide together with the scholarly literatures in the *Supplementary Materials* and in the *Jurisprudence Materials*. In this unit, it was perfectly acceptable for students to critically engage any of that material so long as that critical engagement was reasoned cogently and fairly argued – indeed such critical engagement is encouraged in this unit. Of course, in order to critically engage the topics familiarity with both the lecture and supplementary materials is a requirement.

2.2 In answering the questions, candidates generally displayed a sound understanding of the jurisprudential theory and principles (this unit being a more theoretical unit). At times they also displayed a capacity for the practical application of those theories and principles. Most students were able to demonstrate a capacity to work with theory.

3. Forty-one candidates sat the examination with one candidate failing to sit. Final marks of those that passed were in the range 42/80 to 66/80 (approximately between 51% and 83%), with no candidate who actually sat the exam failing. The final marks and grades were generally consistent with past examinations and were pleasing overall.

4. As the examination was a confidential one, these comments cannot identify the specific issues in the questions.

Questions:

The examination comprised eight questions. Candidates were required to attempt four questions each graded out of twenty for a total of eighty possible marks.