



BarHacker Mini Toolkit

*Indicative Syllabus, Last-Minute Revision & Carry-In Index (for
Bare Acts) for Essential Subjects*

BarHacker

As we mentioned earlier, there is lack of a syllabus providing the scope in which each subject must be studied for the Bar Exam, which makes it difficult for candidates to systematically plan and monitor their preparation. Since you have to study multiple subjects, candidates often get overwhelmed by the volume of books in the hope of learning the intricacies of different subjects. This can be dangerous and make you lose track of your overall preparation strategy.

*To keep you on track, we have prepared an indicative syllabus (for the **six extremely important subjects** for the AIBE – since you should devote significant time to prepare for these subjects) to prepare for the Bar Exam in an organized manner.*

We recommend you to use this syllabus in three ways:

1. Preparation of the topics mentioned in the syllabus will be extremely helpful in answering conceptual questions

The syllabus can be used to complement what you learn from the instructional video lessons uploaded on the Barhacker platform. We have taken guidance from the syllabus of reputed law universities to prepare a holistic syllabus for each subject. Try to use the syllabus as a guide for planning your preparation for each of the 6 subjects. It will be a good idea to have basic familiarity with the topics we have identified in the syllabus below. After you have completed the instructional video lessons for a particular subject, you should use this syllabus as a checklist and try to mark the topics you have gained familiarity with. This will help you to answer ‘conceptual questions’ in the bar exam.

2. Developing familiarity with bare acts

The syllabus can be used to familiarize yourself with the different provisions of the bare act. You should try to correlate each topic from the syllabus below with corresponding provisions of the bare acts. The objective of this exercise is for you to develop an ability to quickly identify whether a particular question in the exam can be answered by referring to the bare act, and in locating the answers in time. Don't try to cram the provisions of the bare act.

3. The syllabus can be used for a quick and systematic last-minute revision

Most students panic a few days before the exam – they have studied extensively but are not confident about whether they will remember essential topics. They are also clueless about how to proceed with revision. This syllabus can be used for a last-minute revision of the key topics.

4. Carry this to the exam hall to use it as an index to bare acts

The syllabus below contains reference to section numbers of the bare act which are pertinent to each topic listed in it – hence, it is advisable to carry it into the examination hall and use it as an index to the bare acts.

***Note:** In the absence of an official syllabus released by the Bar Council of India, we have tried to prepare a list of topics to help you prepare for the six essential subjects for the bar exam. Although the syllabus below is fairly comprehensive, it is not endorsed by the Bar Council of India - it is possible for the real exam to have questions from outside this syllabus. However, preparation of the topics below should place you in good stead to perform well in the exam.*

Constitutional Law

- History of the Constitution: Government of India Act, 1935, Constituent Assembly, Framing of the Constitution: Basic Facts for Constitutional GK
- Separation of powers(Article 50, Also see Indira Gandhi Vs Raj Narain, Kesavananda Bharati Vs State of Kerala)
- Basic Structure (See Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala and Another, Minerva Mills Ltd. and Others v. Union of India and Others & IR Coelho v. State of Tamil Nadu)
- Preamble (Also see Kesavananda Bharati Case)
- Citizenship including provisions of the Indian Citizenship Act, 1955
- Union and State Judiciary (Article 124- Article 147, Article 214- Article 237)
- Writs (Article 32, Article 139, Article 226)
- Union and State Executive (Article 52-Article 78,Article 153-Article 167)
- Union and State Legislature (Article 79-Article 122, Article 168- Article 212)

- Legislative Relations between the Centre and States (Article 245- Article 255)
- Emergency Provisions (Article 352- Article 360)
- Amendment of the Constitution (Article 368)
- Fundamental Rights (Article 12- Article 35)
- Constitutional Right to Property under Article 300-A
- Directive Principles of State Policy, Articles 36-51
- Fundamental Duties, Article 51-A
- Freedom of Trade & Commerce, Articles 301-307
- Ninth Schedule
- State, Union and Concurrent List (Article 246)
- Important cases – at least Keshavananda Bharti, IR Coelho, Anwar Ali Sarkar, Maneka Gandhi (just make sure you know the legal question at stake, very basic facts, outcome and the rationale)

Indian Contract Act

- Definitions and formation of contract (proposal & acceptance related provisions) (Ss 1 to 10)
- Standard Form Contracts
- Capacity to Contract (Ss. 11,12,68)
- Free Consent (Ss. 13 to 22)
- Lawful consideration and object (Ss 2(d), 23,24,25)
- Void Agreements (Ss 26 to 30)
- Contingent Contracts (Ss. 31 to 36)
- Performance of contracts and Anticipatory breach (Ss 37 to 55)
- Impossibility, illegality and performance (Ss. 56 to 61)
- Contracts which need NOT to be performed (Ss. 62 to 67)
- Quasi-Contracts (Ss. 68 to 72)
- Breach of Contract and damages (Ss. 73 to 75)

Special contracts

- Contract of Indemnity and Contract of Guarantee (Ss. 124-147)
- Bailment and Pledge (Ss. 148-181)
- Agency (182-238)

Specific Relief Act

- Meaning of specific performance, enforcement of contract, defences, part-performance of contract
- Recovery of Possession of Immovable Property (Ss. 5 and 6)
- Recovery of Possession of Movable Property (Ss. 7 and 8)
- Contracts which can be specifically enforced (Ss. 10 to 13)
- Contracts which cannot be specifically enforced (Sec. 14)
- Discretion of the Court (Sec. 20)
- Rectification of Instruments (Sec. 26)
- Rescission of Contracts (Ss. 27 to 30)
- Cancellation of Instruments (Ss. 31 to 33)
- Declaratory Decrees (Ss. 34 and 35)
- Preventive Relief (Injunctions) (Ss. 36 to 42)

Transfer of Property Act

- Definition clause: Immovable property, Attestation, Notice, Actionable claim (Section 2)
- Definition to transfer of property (S.5)
- Transfer and non-transfer property (Ss.10-12)
- Transfer to an unborn person and rule against perpetuity (Ss.13, 14)
- Vested and Contingent interest (Ss.19 & 21)
- Conditional Transfer (Ss. 25-27)
- Rule of Election (S.35)
- Transfer by ostensible owner (S. 41)
- Rule of feeding the grant by estoppel (S. 43)

- Rule of Lis Pendens (S. 52)
- Fraudulent transfer (S. 53)
- Rule of part performance (S. 53A)
- Mortgages (Ss. 58 – 84)
- Leases of Immovable Property (Ss. 105-117)
- Gifts (Ss. 122-127)

Negotiable Instruments Act

- Definition, types and characteristic of Negotiable Instruments, definition of different types of negotiable instrument (Ss. 3, 4-13)
- Crossing of Cheques and payment, (123-130)
- Dishonour of Cheques (s. 138)

Note: The contract syllabus prepared by BCI mentions 'special contracts'. It is not clear whether Sale of Goods Act and Indian Partnership Act are also part of the syllabus. In many colleges, Sale of Goods Act and Partnership Act are taught under special contracts. To be safe, we suggest that you glance through the titles of the provisions of the Sale of Goods and Partnership Act. These acts can be found in the Central Civil Acts Manual.

Civil Procedure Code

- Definitions: Decree, Judgment, Order, Foreign Court, Foreign Judgment, Mesne Profits, Affidavit, Suit of a civil nature, Plaint, Written Statement, Legal Representative, Res-sub-judice, Res judicata, Restrictions, Caveat, Inherent Power, Courts (Section 2)
- Jurisdiction and place of suing (Ss. 5, 17, 18, 21)
- Institution of suit (Ss. 15-18, 26) (Order IV)
- Parties of Suit (Order I)
- Agents and Pleaders (Order III)
- Pleadings (Order VI), Plaint (Order VII)

- Appearance of parties and consequence of non-appearance (Order IX)
- Security of costs (Order XXV)
- Summons to defendant (S.27)
- Suits by and against minors and persons with unsound mind (Order XXXII), suits by indigent person (Order XXXIII)
- Powers of court –
 - Power to order discovery (S.30)
 - Summons to witness (S.31)
 - Penalty for default (S.32)
 - Arrest and detention (S.55, Order XXXVIII)
 - Interlocutory Order and temporary measures (Order XXXIX)
 - Appointing Receivers (Order XL)
- Judgment and decree (S.33), execution of decree (S. 82, Order XI)
- Suits by or against Government (Ss. 79-80)
- Summary Procedure (Order XXXVII)
- Appeal, reference and review (Ss. 114-115 & Orders XLVI and XLVII)
- Inherent Power of Courts (understand the concept and section number)

In the CPC, the some of the important sections also have a corresponding ‘Order’. You are advised to go through the headings of the Orders and the title of the rules in the orders. If you can’t find an answer to a question in the sections, remember that it could also be in the order.

Code of Criminal Procedure

- Object, scope and extent of CrPC, definitions (Ss. 1-2)
- Compoundable and non-compoundable offences (Ss. 320)
- Summons case and Warrant case (Ss. 24(1) and 24(2))
- Hierarchy of courts, powers of courts and magistrates
- Arrest provisions (Section 40-50), Summons and warrants (Ss. 91 – 105)
- Information to Police and Investigation (Ss. 154-176)
- Jurisdiction of Criminal Courts in inquire and arrest (Ss. 177-179)

- Cognizance and initiation of proceeding before Magistrate (Ss. 190-199)
- Complaints to Magistrate and commencement of proceedings (Ss. 204-210)
- Bail, anticipatory bail and bonds (Ss. 436-450)
- Maintenance of Public order and Tranquility (Ss. 129-148)
- Maintenance of Wife, Children and Parents (S. 125)
- Inherent Power of Courts (understand the concept and section number)
- Charge (s. 211, 218)
- Prohibition against double jeopardy - Section 300
- Types of sentences (see the headings in Chapter 32), death sentence (ss. 413- 416)
- Types of Trials (Chapters 18 – 21)
(You should know the types of trials, the name of the court/ magistrate which tries the cases and the chapter in which relevant provisions are contained)

Indian Penal Code

- General Information on framing of IPC
- Elements of crime
- General Explanations and Exceptions (Sec.76-106)
- Private Defence (Ss. 97-105)
- Abetment and Criminal Conspiracy (Sec.107 to 114; Sec 120-A,B)
- Sedition (S.124A), Obscenity (S.292)
- Offences affecting the Human Body and Offences Against Women (Ss. 299 to 377, S. 498A)
- Offences Against Property (Ss. 378-462)
- Defamation (S. 499-502)
- Criminal Intimidation (S. 503)

Indian Evidence Act

- Definition: Facts, facts in issue, relevant, evidence proved, disproved, not proved, oral and documentary evidence (Sec.3)

- Relevancy and admissibility
- Doctrine of res gestae (Sec.6,7,8,9)
- Conspiracy (Sec.10)
- Admission (Sec.17-23)
- Confessions (Sec.24-30)
- Dying Declaration (Sec.32)
- Presumptions (Sec.4, 41, 79-90, 105,107,108,112,113-A, 114 and 114-A)
- Oral and documentary evidence (Sec.59-78)
- Rules relating to Burden of Proof (Sec.101-105)
- Estoppel (Sec.115-117)
- Privileged Communications (Sec.122-129)
- Concepts in examination of witnesses – Cross examination, examination in chief, hostile witness, leading question, questions as to character (Chapter 10)