

SARAH J. GARRISON

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Detroit Mercy Law, Assistant Professor of Law, September 2025-Present

Detroit Mercy Law, Department of Academic Success
Assistant Dean of Bar Preparation, September 2025-Present
Director of Bar Preparation, September 2015 - present.
Interim Assistant Dean of Academic Success, April 2020 – July 2021

Wayne State University Law School, Department of Academic Success
Director of Academic Support and Bar Preparation, April 2013 – August 2015.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Detroit Mercy Law, Detroit, Michigan; January 2016-Present

Director of Bar Preparation

- **LAW3214: Bar Exam Strategies** (Winter 2022 to Present): a 4-credit hour course offered in the Fall and winter semester to graduating students in their final semester. 6-12 students in the fall semester, 120-145 students in the winter semester taught in four sections.
- **LAW1201: Critical Legal Skills** (Winter 2021): a 2-credit hour required course for students below a certain GPA. 37 students were enrolled this semester.
- **LAW3212: Michigan Bar Exam Essay Strategies** (Fall 2016-2021): a 2-credit hour course offered in both the fall and winter semesters, open to all students regardless of graduation date. 20-35 students in the fall and 50-80 students in the winter semester.
- **LAW3213: Multistate Bar Exam Strategies** (Winter 2016): a 1-credit hour course focused only on MBE work. 30-45 students in the winter semester.

PUBLICATIONS

Ashley M. London, Nachman N. Gutowski, Sarah J. Garrison, & Steven Foster, *The Keystone State Should Forge A New Path To Lawyer Licensure*, 8 UNT DALLAS L. REV. ON THE CUSP 47 (2026).

Sarah J. Garrison, Nachman N. Gutowski, Steven Foster, and Ashley London, *Beyond NextGen UBE: A Blueprint for Michigan's Independent Bar Licensing Model* (May 14, 2025) (unpublished manuscript).

Sarah Garrison and Jessica Rouser, *Orienting the Family: A One-Day Program for the Families of First-Generation Students*, *The Learning Curve*, pp. 2-5, Winter/Spring 2022.

Sarah J. Garrison, *How to Apply for the Michigan Bar Exam* in How to Pass the Michigan Bar Exam, Third Edition, 13-28, (JD Advising, 2018).

PRESENTATIONS

Panelist, AALS Hot Topic Program: *Beyond NextGen: Licensure Reform and Equity in Attorney Licensure*, Association of American Law Schools Conference, New Orleans, LA, January 6, 2026.

Panelist, *Licensure Reform*, Southeastern Association of Law School (SEALS) Conference, Amelia Island, FL, July 31, 2025.

“Critical Reading Strategies for Law Students” presented on Let’s Talk: A Barbri Webinar Series for Academic Support Professionals on March 15, 2024. Co-presented with Jamie Kleppetsch, DePaul University College of Law.

“Initiating a Culture Shift: Transitioning Away from Faculty-Centered Rubrics to Enable Better Student Self-Assessment” presented at Association of Academic Support Professionals Annual Conference on May 25, 2023.

“1st Generation Law Student Family Orientation Program” presented at Northeast Consortium of Academic Support Professionals Annual Conference on December 10, 2021. Co-presented with Jessica Rouser, University of Detroit Mercy.

“A Survey on Best Practices for Multiple Choice Drafting” presented at Detroit Mercy Law Professional Development Teach-In on October 3, 2019. Co-presented with Cara Cunningham-Warren, Detroit Mercy Law.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Association of Academic Support Professionals, Member, 2013 to Present
Executive Board, Treasurer, 2024-25
AASE Annual Meeting Communications Chair, Indianapolis, IN, May 2014

Association of American Law Schools, Member 2013 to Present
Section on Academic Support, Executive Board Member, 2023 to Present.

SERVICE TO THE LAW SCHOOL

Detroit Mercy Law, Detroit, Michigan; January 2016-Present
Director of Bar Preparation

- Petitions Committee, 2021 to Present.
- Admission Committee, 2023 to Present.
- Student Success Task Force, 2020 to 2022.

EDUCATION

J.D. University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Pittsburgh, PA

May 2003

B.A. ALMA COLLEGE, Alma, MI

April 2000

Major Areas: History and Political Science *with Honors*

Minor: English

BAR ADMISSIONS

Licensed in Illinois, (2003-Present) Inactive