

Expert Witness Training – Cross Examination Foundations

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About this Course

The provision of expert evidence under cross examination is a highly technical and specialised process, and is foreign to many expert witnesses.

Developed out of the ongoing difficulties faced by witnesses when providing evidence under cross examination, this course seeks to redress the imbalance which many expert witnesses face when giving testimony.

This course serves as a foundation on which specialists and professionals can understand more about the delivery of expert evidence under cross examination. It also serves existing and practising experts as a timely refresher in the fundamental aspects of the provision of evidence.

In this way expert witnesses (and their legal team) can be assured and confident that the expert will be well placed to effectively deliver evidence under cross examination.

Aim

The aim of this course is to provide a detailed information to expert witnesses on the delivery of evidence under cross examination in court and other judicial/quasi-judicial settings.

Learning Outcomes

- Understand the purpose of cross examination
- Know what solicitors and barristers look for in expert witness testimony
- Awareness of cross examination techniques and methods
- Develop strategies to effectively deliver evidence under cross examination



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Course Details

Witnesses

Courses are suitable for all expert witnesses, although particularly useful for:

- Aspiring expert witnesses
- Specialists and professionals with limited experience as an expert witness looking to understand more about the expert witness process
- Expert witnesses with limited court-room or cross examination experience but looking to develop this
- Expert witnesses with some cross-examination experience but looking to “refresh” or hone their skills
- Practising expert witnesses looking to refresh or maintain their ongoing Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements

Witness training courses
“prevent witnesses from being disadvantaged by ignorance... As such, witness familiarisation arrangements are not only permissible; they are to be welcomed.”

Bar Council of England and
Wales: Guidance on Witness
Preparation 2019

Instructors

All courses are presented by practicing barristers who regularly cross examine expert witnesses as part of their practice. Most trainers are also advocacy instructors who teach advocacy and cross examination to trainee barristers as part of the various bar practice courses, both in Australia and internationally.

Our barristers are specially selected for their approachability, and ability to effectively explain practical legal concepts to all witnesses. They are accessible and personable while still maintaining their incisive technical skills.

All barristers are wholly independent of the facts and matters of any case(s) in which the expert witnesses may be involved.

Preparation

Review of pre-prepared materials – approx. 1-2 hours.

Location

- In person courses are immediately available in person in most Australian capital cities, and regionally and internationally on request.
- Remote courses via video-link are immediately available throughout Australia and worldwide.

Delivery Method

Typically this course is provided at the request of professional organisations for the benefit of their members, and of employers for the benefit of their staff.

From time to time this course is also provided publicly for the benefit of all experts who wish to attend. Please [contact us](#) if you would be interested in attending one of these publicly available courses.

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Forum and Jurisdictions

These courses are available for all legal forums – courts, tribunals, arbitrations, investigations, depositions, inquiries and commissions – anywhere evidence will be provided under cross examination.

Sessions can be provided for all Australian jurisdictions, and certain international jurisdictions.

Group Sessions

This course is provided as a group session, with an unlimited number of attendees.

Ad hoc training sessions for individual experts or small groups can also be arranged.

Duration and Cost

- Duration – half day and full day sessions available.
- Please [contact us](#) to discuss pricing options.

Materials

All materials have been prepared by independent practising solicitors and barristers.

Prior Experience

No prior experience is necessary.

Course Structure

- The giving of expert testimony under cross examination
- Barrister preparation to cross examine experts
- How experts should prepare for cross examination
- Advocate cross examination techniques
- Witness countermeasures
- Witness strategies to deliver evidence effectively under cross examination
- A series of sample, short mock cross examinations, based on pre-prepared hypothetical materials

Proximity to Engagement

Generally we recommend these courses are conducted in preparation for, and in advance of, an expert's engagement as an expert.

CPD

Counts as 3 hours to the expert's ongoing professional Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements, subject to the rules of the various professional bodies.

Witness training courses will ***“assist witnesses to give their best at the trial or hearing in question without any risk that their evidence may become anything other than the witnesses' own uncontaminated evidence.”***

Bar Council of England and
Wales: Guidance on Witness
Preparation 2019

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Is it relevant for both experts and factual witnesses?

No – this training is only relevant to expert witnesses. See our [Witness Familiarisation Courses](#) for training for factual witnesses.

Benefits

Witness training courses by an independent third-party provider offer various unique benefits, some which are often unavailable to other expert training methods. These benefits include:

- Detailed understanding of the roles and obligations of expert witness
- Improved delivery of evidence
- Expert confidence
- Training from experienced, practicing barristers
- Completely comprehensive “turnkey” course
- Third party instructors ensure no excessive familiarity
- Time saving
- Effective and practical techniques and evaluation
- Presentation of materials in plain English
- Reassurance that witness will present in the best way possible
- Completely independent and ethical
- Promotes openness of justice

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About Loquitur

Loquitur is Australia's premier witness familiarisation and evidence support and training organisation.

Loquitur offers specialist witness familiarisation courses (often referred to as witness training courses) and other evidence support and training services to both witnesses of fact (lay witnesses) and expert witnesses.

Training courses are available throughout Australia and internationally for the provision of evidence under cross examination by experts and lay witnesses in all legal forums, including at court, arbitrations, depositions, investigations and commissions.

Other Courses

Loquitur offers a variety of [other courses](#) to assist both experts and lay witnesses. These include:

- Witness Familiarisation Training (for factual and expert witnesses)
- Expert Witness Training – the Basics
- Expert Witness Training – Report Writing
- Expert Witness Training – Cross Examination Practical

Please [contact us](#) to find out more.

