

Expert Witness Training – Report Writing

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About this Course

The provision of expert reports is a highly technical and specialised process, and requires a very specific form of drafting, which can be unfamiliar to many professionals.

Developed out of the ongoing difficulties faced by expert witnesses when providing (or looking to provide) expert evidence, this course seeks to inform expert witnesses of this process and provide detailed guidance to experts in preparing reports.

This course serves as a foundation on which specialists and professionals with limited experience as an expert witness can learn more about the expert report writing process. It also serves existing and practising experts as a timely refresher in the provision of expert reports.

In this way expert witnesses (and their legal team) can be assured and confident that the expert will be well placed to receive instructions and effectively draft reports.

Aim

The aim of this course is to provide a general introduction to expert witnesses on the drafting of expert reports.

Learning Outcomes

- Understand the purpose of an expert report
- Know how to effectively take instructions
- Report content, structuring and drafting
- Know what solicitors and barristers look for in their own expert's, and opposing expert's, reports



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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 report writing process
- 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 review expert reports (and cross examine expert witnesses on them) 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

None required.

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.

Expert Witness Training – Report Writing

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 – one hour, 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

- Assessing expert evidence
- The report and contents
- Privilege and effects
- Taking instructions
- Drafting the report
- Practical report writing courses can be provided on request and will vary depending on the nature of the course, the type of reports written and the witnesses' areas of expertise.
- Various options are available for this.
- Please [contact us](#) for practical course structuring, costing and other details.

Proximity to Engagement

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

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.”***

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CPD

Counts as 1 hour to the expert's ongoing professional Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements, subject to the rules of the various professional bodies.

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 – Cross Examination Foundations
- Expert Witness Training – Cross Examination Practical

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

