

## Expert Witness Training – Public Intensive 1-day Course

### *Expert Witness Training – Public Intensive 1-day Course*

#### About this Course

The provision of expert evidence is a highly technical and specialised process, and requires a very specific series of skills, 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 educate expert witnesses of this process and provide detailed guidance to experts in preparing expert reports and subsequently providing expert testimony under cross examination.

This course serves as a foundation on which specialists and professionals with limited experience as an expert witness can learn more about the expert evidence process. It also serves existing and practising experts as a timely refresher in the provision of evidence. In this way expert witnesses (and their legal team, company or organisation) can be assured and confident that the expert will be well placed to provide expert evidence during all stages of the evidential process.

#### Aim

The aim of this course is to provide detailed understanding, knowledge and experience to expert witnesses on the provision of expert evidence in courts, tribunals and other legal and quasi-legal forums.

#### Learning Outcomes

##### Expert Report Writing:

- 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
- Analyse opposing expert reports, and how opposing experts will analyse your report

##### Expert Cross Examination:

- Understand the purpose of cross examination
- Know what solicitors and barristers look for in their own, and opposing expert witness testimony
- Knowledge of cross examination techniques and methods – both theoretical and practical
- Develop and apply strategies to effectively deliver evidence under cross examination
- Practical understanding of the provision of evidence under cross examination



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### Course Details

#### Witnesses

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 process
- Experienced experts 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 practising barristers who regularly review expert reports, and cross examine expert witnesses on them, as part of their practise. 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

Approx two hours based on materials to be provided.

#### Location

- Courses are typically provided via videolink throughout Australia and worldwide.
- In person courses can be arranged in most Australian capital cities, and regionally and internationally on request.

#### Forum and Jurisdictions

These courses are available for all Australian 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.

#### Number of Attendees

This course is provided as a small group session, typically with a maximum number of 8 attendees.

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### Duration and Cost

- Duration: one day - generally 9am to 5pm Sydney/Melbourne time.
- 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

#### First Session – Report Writing

- Assessing expert evidence
- The report and contents
- Privilege and effects
- Taking instructions
- Drafting the report
- Practical report writing issues and mistakes
- Review and analysis of prior reports and materials

#### Second Session – Cross Examination

- 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 and strategies to deliver evidence effectively under cross examination
- Ongoing practical cross examination with candidates in group – analysis and feedback

### CPD

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

### Is it relevant for other types of witnesses?

No – this training is only relevant to expert witnesses. See our [Witness Familiarisation Courses](#) for training for factual witnesses, and our [Witness Skills Courses](#) for training for professional witnesses (such as public servants, police and emergency responders and health professionals).

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### Benefits

Witness training courses by an independent third-party provider such as Loquitur 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

## Expert Witness Training – Public Intensive 1-day Course

### About Loquitur

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

Loquitur offers specialist witness training courses and other evidence support and training services to all witnesses including:

- Witnesses of fact (lay witnesses);
- Expert witnesses; and
- Professional witnesses (such as public servants, police and emergency responders and health professionals)

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

### Other Courses

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

- Witness Familiarisation Training (for factual and expert witnesses)
- In House Expert Witness Training for organisations, companies, departments and professional bodies
- Witness Skills Training for professionals likely to give evidence as part of their profession – for example, police officers, emergency responders, health professionals, public servants

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

