



Pennsylvania Real Estate Fundamentals & Practice Course

75 Hour Course Outline

I. The Real Estate Business

- Describe real estate activities
- Identify real estate professions
- Define residential, commercial, investment
- Identify primary brokerage activities
- Define specializations
- List skills & knowledge needed
- Identify major professional organizations
- Identify regulated areas
- List general areas of license law

II. Rights in Real Estate

- Define land and real estate
- Distinguish categories of property
- Identify the bundle of rights
- Define air, surface, subsurface & water rights
- Identify areas of government & judicial regulations

III. Interests & Estates

- Define estates in real property
- Define interests & estates in land,
- Distinguish freehold from leasehold estates,
- Describe types of fee simple estate,
- Describe types of life estate,
- Describe types of leasehold estate

IV. Ownership

- Define the forms of ownership
- Define sole ownership
- Define & distinguish forms of co-ownership
- Describe how joint tenancy is created
- Define the mechanics of an estate in trust
- Identify the features of a land trust
- Define condominium ownership
- Define cooperative ownership
- Define time-share ownership

V. Encumbrances & Liens

- Define encumbrance
- Identify types and priority of liens
- Describe the types of lien
- Define lien priority
- Describe foreclosure processes
- Describe the types of easements
- Define deed restrictions
- Define encroachment

VI. Transferring & Recording Title

- Distinguish legal & equitable title
- Define actual and constructive notice
- List & describe processes of voluntary & involuntary transfer
- Describe components of a deed of conveyance
- Identify types of deed
- Identify types of will
- Describe probate processes
- Define title & title records
- Describe the forms of title evidence

VII. Real Estate Leases

- Identify the principal types of leasehold estates
- List the rights & obligations of landlord and tenant
- List the legal requirements of a lease contract
- Describe major lease clauses
- Define the major types of lease
- Define default and termination
- Describe the areas regulated by URLTA

VIII. Land Use Planning & Control

- Describe the goals and process of land use planning
- Describe the zoning & zoning appeals process
- Define the types of zone
- Describe the process of taking by eminent domain
- Describe the major environmental legislation
- Describe the major types of private land use control

IX. Legal Descriptions

- Define legal description
- Describe the metes and bounds method
- Interpret a metes and bounds description
- Describe the rectangular survey method
- Identify ranges, tiers and townships
- Identify sections of a township
- Calculate acreage of fractions of a section
- Describe a section fraction
- Interpret a rectangular survey description
- Describe the recorded plat method
- Describe the use of elevation reference points

X. Real Estate Contract Law

- Identify the basic legal concepts of contracts

- Describe requirements for contract validity
- Describe the creation & termination of contracts

XI. Agency

- Define the agency relationship
- Describe the fiduciary duties of agency
- Identify the forms of real estate agency
- Describe the rules of agency disclosure
- Identify problem areas for real estate agents

XII. Listing Agreements

- Describe the basis of listing agreements in contract and agency law
- Identify the types of listing agreement
- Describe how an agent fulfills an agreement and earns compensation
- Identify the basic provisions of a listing agreement

XIII. The Brokerage Business

- Identify the activities, scope & organization of brokerage
- Identify who may/may not broker real estate
- Define broker-salesperson relationships
- Calculate a commission split

XIV. Contracts for the Sale of Real Estate

- Describe the characteristics and provisions of a contract for sale
- Describe the characteristics and provisions of an option-to-buy contract
- Describe the characteristics of a contract for deed

XV. Real Estate Market Economics

- Describe the elements of the market system
- Define the economic characteristics of real estate
- Describe real estate supply and demand

XVI. Appraising & Estimating Value

- Define real estate value
- Describe economic foundations of real estate value
- Identify major types of value
- Define market value
- Define appraisal
- Describe the appraisal process
- Describe the three approaches to value
- Define comparative market analysis
- Perform basic calculations used in appraisal
- Identify regulated appraisal activities and professional standards

XVII. Real Estate Finance

- Define mortgage financing
- Describe loan transactions
- Calculate loan financial components
- Identify major elements of mortgage & trust deed
- Describe the underwriting & loan application processes
- Describe the major laws that affect mortgage lending
- Calculate the loan amount for which a borrower qualifies
- Describe the primary & secondary mortgage markets
- Describe common loan types and structures

XVIII. Real Estate Investment

- Describe the investment characteristics of real estate
- Identify investment entities
- Describe the tax treatment of real estate investments
- Perform basic real estate investment analysis and tax calculations

XIX. Real Estate Taxation

- Identify taxing entities
- Describe ad valorem taxation

- Perform basic tax calculations
- Describe the enforcement of tax liens

XX. Ethics: Laws & Practices

- Identify and describe the fair housing laws & fair financing laws
- Identify fair housing and financing problem areas for real estate agents
- Identify acceptable ethical and professional practices

XXI. Closings

- Describe the process of a real estate closing
- Describe the requirements of RESPA
- Define buyer's & seller's debits and credits
- Define and calculate prorations
- Identify and calculate taxes due at closing
- Complete a closing statement

XXII. Real Estate Licensing & Regulation

- Describe the role of state license law
- Describe the procedure & requirements for obtaining and retaining a real estate license
- Identify services requiring a license
- Identify the types of real estate license
- Describe the role of the state real estate commission

XXIII. Risk Management

- Define risk & risk management
- Explain the four basic risk management strategies
- Describe the four primary risk management procedures in real estate practice
- Identify the primary risk areas for real estate licensees

XXIV. Property Management

- Describe the major functions of the property manager
- Identify the nature and components of a management agreement

- Describe elements of various lease types of most interest to a property manager
- Identify sources of management business, the role of the management plan in securing business, and sources of professional training for property managers

XXV. The State Real Estate Commission

- Recall the duties and powers of the Pennsylvania State Real Estate Commission
- Describe the complaint and investigation processes
- Describe the hearings and appeals processes
- Identify the purpose of the Real Estate Recovery Fund

XXVI. Pennsylvania Licensure

- List the activities requiring licensure
- List the types of license
- Identify who is eligible for a license
- Explain the license renewal and reactivation process
- Describe the process to change employment
- List exclusions from licensure
- Define suspension and revocation

XXVII. Pennsylvania Regulation of Conduct Part 1

- Describe the PA advertising laws
- Define the broker/salesperson relationship specific to PA
- Define the agency relationships specific to PA
- Identify how licensees receive compensation
- List the general duties of licensees
- Identify prohibited conduct

XXVIII. Pennsylvania Regulation of Conduct Part 2

- List mandatory disclosures
- Identify documents, contracts, forms and how they should be used;
- Describe the method for maintaining funds and accounts;
- Recall office requirements and inspections;

- Describe the PA Human Relationships Act
- Identify specific requirements for Time-Shares

XXIX. Real Estate Mathematics

- Practice using basic equations to solve real estate mathematical problems