

# **Evidence and Criminal Procedure**

CJS 213  
Spring 2015

Three Rivers Community College  
574 New London Turnpike  
Norwich, Connecticut 06360

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**I. Course Title: Evidence and Criminal Procedure**

**II. Course Information:**

A. CJS K213

B. Room: D 122

C. Day/Time: Wednesday 6:30 to 9:15 PM

**III. Course Description:**

This course explores the historical background, kinds of evidence, and the development of the rules of evidence. Considered are the hearsay rule and its major exceptions, burden of proof, judicial notice, and presumptions. Students will examine the roles of the judge, jury, and prosecuting attorney. Other areas of study will include the grand jury, prosecution by indictment, as well as other court procedures.

**IV. Course Goals:**

**Goals and Objectives:**

1. Demonstrate an understanding of through applying the rules of evidence and criminal procedure.
  - A. Read and assess case study/law and articulate the appropriate application of rules.
  - B. Assess visual scenarios and describe errors and/or appropriate actions on the part of criminal justice professionals.
  - C. Research the history and rationale for rules of evidence and criminal procedure.
  - D. Demonstrate a relationship between course work and other degree requirements.
2. Utilize critical thinking skills within the context of evidentiary process requirements in the criminal justice system.
  - A. To acquire and analyze information to determine its quality and utility.
  - B. To recognize parallels between and among disciplines and apply knowledge, skills, or abilities learned in one discipline to another.
  - C. To summarize, analyze, evaluate, and use argumentation and persuasion.
  - D. To utilize inductive and deductive thought processes.
3. To understand and convey ideas in diverse contexts using reading, writing, speaking, and listening.
  - A. To comprehend and evaluate written passages.
  - B. Utilize social science methodology to differentiate between fact, information, and opinion.
  - C. Produce a research paper that conforms to APA standards.
  - D. To speak clearly.
  - E. To understand lectures, arguments, and other speech.

**V. Instructional Methods:**

- A. Lecture
- B. Discussion
- C. Practical Exercises

**VI. Required Text:**

Criminal Evidence, Principles and Cases, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition, Wadsworth Publishing,  
ISBN: 978-1-111-83803-4

**VII. Disabilities Statement:**

If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact the Disabilities Counseling Services at 860-215-9289. To avoid any delay in the receipt of accommodations, you should contact the counselor as soon as possible. Please note that I cannot provide accommodations based upon disability until I have received an accommodation letter from the Disabilities Counselor. Your cooperation is appreciated.

**VIII. Course Outline:**

The following is a tentative class schedule. This is subject to change depending on the time required to cover the material and the needs of the students.

**IV. Course Outline:**

Week #1 – Jan. 28, Introduction to Course/Chapter 1, **Quiz #1**

**Distributed**

Week #2 – Feb. 4, Chapters 2

Week #3 – Feb. 11, Chapter 3, **Quiz #2 Distributed**

Week #4 – Feb. 18, Chapter 4

Week #5 – Feb. 25, Chapter 18

Week #6 – March 4, Chapter 7, **Quiz # 3 Distributed**

Week #7 – March 11, Chapter 5

Week #8 – March 18, **Spring Break - No Class**  
 Week #9 – March 25, Chapters 6, **Mid-Term Due**  
 Week #10 – April 1, Chapter 8, **Quiz #4 Distributed**  
 Week #11 – April 8, Chapter 9 &10  
 Week #12 – April 15, Chapter 11, **Paper Presentations**  
 Week #13 – April 22, Chapter 12, **Paper Presentations**  
 Week #14 –April 29, Chapter 13 &14, **Paper Presentations**  
 Week #15 – May 6, Chapter 15 &16, **Research Paper Due**  
 Week #16 – May 13, Chapter 17, **Final Exam Due**

**XI. Evaluation Procedures**

Your final grade will be determined by a combination of exams, a research paper, and class participation.

Exams (2)	500 - 250 each
Paper	200
Paper Presentation	100
<u>Quizzes (4)</u>	<u>200 - at 50 each</u>
	1000

**Quizzes:** Quizzes will be take-home multiple choice.

**Exams:** Exams will be take-home essay.

**Research Paper:** The paper must be at least eight but no more than ten pages long. A topic approval form must be submitted to the instructor by 11-04-14. The paper must have at least five references; one reference must be from an academic journal the rest must be from academically acceptable sources.

Late papers will be penalized 10 percentage points per week or part thereof.

The paper will be in APA style and will be written in Times New Roman 12 point type with standard margins. The paper will include a cover page that notes the title of the paper and all the relevant course and student information. Failure to use the APA format will result in an automatic 25 percentage point reduction in the paper grade.

**Grades:** All grades will be posted on Blackboard. The grades will be expressed in a point value. For example: an exam is worth 25 percentage points, a grade of between 0 and 25 points will be recorded. The total amount of points earned during the semester will correspond to the grade scale listed below.

## **X. Final Grade Scale**

A	=	94 - 100
A-	=	90 - 93
B+	=	87 - 89
B	=	83 - 86
B-	=	80 - 82
C+	=	77 - 79
C	=	73 - 76
C-	=	70 - 72
D+	=	67 - 69
D	=	63 - 66
D-	=	60 - 62
F	=	00 - 59
W	=	Withdrawal
I	=	Incomplete
P / F	=	Pass / Fail
AU	=	Audit

## **XI. College Withdrawal Policy**

Students may withdraw from a course by May 11<sup>th</sup>, by completing a withdrawal form. The form must be submitted to the Registrar's Office.

## **XII. Instructor's Attendance Policy**

Consistent attendance at class meetings is crucial to success in this course. You are expected to attend all classes in order to receive full benefit from instruction.

## **XIII. Academic Dishonesty**

Conduct which as its intent or effect the false representation of a student's academic performance and/or knowingly and intentionally assisting another student to do so in any way constitute academic dishonesty. In the event of academic dishonesty, the College's policy will be enforced.

## **XIV. Electronic Devices etc.**

Students are notified that cellular phones are allowed in class or in the Learning Resource Center only if they are turned off or turned to a silent mode. Under no circumstances are phones to be answered in class. When there are extenuating circumstances that require that a student be available by phone, the student should speak to the instructor prior to class so that together they can arrive at an agreement.

## **XV. Digication Portfolio**

All students are required to maintain an online learning portfolio in Digication that uses the college template. Through this electronic tool students will have the opportunity to monitor their own growth in college-wide learning. The student will keep his/her learning portfolio and may continue to use the Digication account after graduation. A Three Rivers General Education Assessment Team will select and review random works to improve the college experience for all. Student work reviewed for assessment purposes will not include names and all student work will remain private and anonymous for college improvement purposes. Students will have the ability to integrate learning from the classroom, college, and life in general, which will provide additional learning opportunities. If desired, students will have the option to create multiple portfolios.