

Evidence and Criminal Procedure

CJS 213
Fall 2007

Three Rivers Community College
Thames Campus
Norwich, Connecticut 06360

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Office Hours:

M&W 1:00 to 4:00

Friday by appointment (Please email for appointments)

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

II. **Course Information:**

A. CJS K213

B. Location: Thames Campus Room: 224W

C. Day/Time: M 9:30 AM to 12:15 PM

III. **Course Description:**

This course explores the historical background 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 the prosecuting attorney. Other area will include the grand jury, prosecution by indictment as well as other court procedures.

IV. **Course Goals:**

The goals of this course are

1. Provide the students with an understanding of the rules of evidence related to criminal court proceedings.
2. Inform students regarding court procedures and practices
3. Continue to develop reading and writing skills.
4. Review current events in the courts and criminal justice field, understanding the interconnection between these events and the rules of evidence.

V. **Instructional Methods:**

A. Lecture

B. Discussion

C. Practical Exercises

VI. Required Text:

Practical Criminal Evidence, by Gregory Lee, 1st Edition, ISBN 0-13-171441-4

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 892-5751. 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, the needs of the students, and the availability of guest speakers.

Week #1 - 08-27 Introduction to Class and Instructor

Week #2 - 09-03 No Class

Week #3 - 09-10 Chapters 1 & 2

Week #4 - 09-17 Chapter 3 & 4

Week #5 - 10-24 Chapter 5

Week #6 - 10-01 Chapter 6

Week #7 - 10-08 No Class

Week #8 - 10-15 Chapter 7 (Mid-Term Exam Due)

Week #9 - 10-22 Chapter 8 & 9

Week #10 -10-29 Chapter 10

Week #11 -11-05 Paper Presentations and Chapter 11

Week #12 -11-12 Paper Presentations and Chapter 12

Week #13 - 11-19 Thanksgiving Recess - No Class

Week #14 – 11-26 Chapter 13 (Paper Due)

Week #15 - 12-03 Chapter 14 & 15

Week #16 – 12-10 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)	50% - 25% each
Paper	30%
Oral Presentation	10%
<u>Class Participation</u>	<u>10%</u>
	100%

All grades will be posted on Web/CT-Vista. The grades will be expressed in a point value. For example: an exam is worth 25 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.

Exams will be take home essay.

The paper must be at least eight pages, but no more than ten pages long. Research for this paper must include sources in addition to the class text. A topic approval form must be submitted to the instructor by 10-22-07. The paper class presentation will count for 10% of the paper grade.

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 a 25 point reduction in the paper grade.

X. Final Grade Scale

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

XI. College Withdrawal Policy

A verbal “drop or withdrawal” from course(s) will be accepted through the 10th week of classes in accordance with the designated withdrawal deadlines. Students will need to provide the following information: full name, address, date of birth, student identification number and social security number, course reference number (CRN), description/subject and instructor’s name, if VA / FA benefits, Verbal drops or verbal withdrawals are processed through the Registrar’s Office and Subase site ONLY.

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. Cellular Phones etc.

Students are notified that cellular phones and other electronic devices 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.