

Evidence and Criminal Procedure CJ213

Syllabus

Wednesday 6:30 P. – 9:15 P.

Spring Semester 2013

Sherry A. Ziolkovski; Instructor *

- 1) (860) 701-0407 Home Phone (Leave Message)
- 2) (860) 235-7926 Cell Phone (Leave Message)
- 3) (860) 848-5034 Office Phone (6:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. - No Voice Mail)

*Three Rivers Community College
Norwich, Connecticut*

* The above contact information is for your exclusive use in participating in this course. Please use them for this purpose only.

The Instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus to best meet the class objectives.

January 30, 2013

DISCUSSION: Introduction of Course / Objectives
Layout of Classroom/Expectations (Yours/Mine/Ours)
Syllabus / Assignments
Text – *Criminal Evidence Principles and Cases – 8th Edition – Gardner / Anderson*

Assignment for Next Week:
Read Chapter 1 and 2

February 6, 2013

DISCUSSION: 1) History and Development of the Law of Criminal Evidence
2) Important Aspects of the American Criminal Justice System

Assignment for Next Week:
Read Chapter 3 & 4

February 13, 2013

DISCUSSION: 3) Using Evidence to Determine Guilt or Innocence
4) Direct and Circumstantial Evidence and the use of Inferences

Assignment for Next Week:
Read Chapter 5 & 6

February 20, 2013

DISCUSSION: 5) Witnesses and Testimony of Witnesses
6) Judicial Notice, Privileges of Witnesses, and Shield Laws
Quiz #1 Distributed

Assignment for Next Week:
Read Chapter 7 & 8
Quiz #1 Due

February 27, 2013

DISCUSSION: 7) The use of Hearsay in the Courtroom
8) The Confrontation Clause and Exceptions to the Hearsay Rule
Quiz #1 Due
Quiz #2 Distributed

Assignment for Next Week:
Read Chap. 9 & 10
Quiz #2 Due

March 6, 2013

DISCUSSION: 9) The Exclusionary Rule
10) Where the Exclusionary Rule does not apply
Quiz #2 Due

Assignment for Next Week:
Read Chap. 11 & 12

March 13, 2013

DISCUSSION: 11) "Special Needs" and Administrative Searches
12) Obtaining Statements and Confessions for use as Evidence
Mid Term Exam Distributed

Assignment for Next Week:
No Class Next Week – Spring Break
Mid Term Exam Due on March 27, 2013
Read Chap. 13

March 20, 2013 – Spring Break – No Class

March 27, 2013

DISCUSSION: 13) The Law Governing Identification Evidence
Mid Term Exam Due

Assignment for Next Week:
No Class Next Week – Spring Break
Read Chapter 14

April 3, 2013

DISCUSSION: 14) Obtaining Physical and Other Evidence
Quiz #3 Distributed

Assignment for Next Week:
Read Chapter 15
Quiz #3 Due

April 10, 2013

DISCUSSION: 15) Obtaining Evidence from Computers or by use of Search Warrants, Wiretapping, or Dogs trained to Indicate and Alert.
Quiz #3 Due

Assignment for Next Week:
Read Chapter 16

April 17, 2013

DISCUSSION: 16) The Crime Scene, The Chain of Custody Requirement, and the Use of Fingerprints and Trace Evidence

Assignment for Next Week:
Read Chapter 17

April 24, 2013

DISCUSSION:

17) Videotapes, Photographs, Documents, and Writings as Evidence
Quiz #4 Distributed

Assignment for Next Week:

Read Chapter 18
Quiz #4 Due
Research Papers / Oral Presentations Due

May 1, 2013

DISCUSSION:

18) Scientific Evidence
Quiz #4 Due

Research Papers / Oral Presentations Due

Assignment for Next Week:

Research Papers / Oral Presentations Due

May 8, 2013

DISCUSSION:

Research Papers / Oral Presentations Due
Final Exam Distributed

Assignment for Next Week:

Final Exam Due

May 15, 2013

DISCUSSION:

Final Exam Due; Course Review and Wrap Up

Description of Course:

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 areas will include the grand jury, prosecution by indictment as well as other court procedures.

Objectives:

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

Classroom Structure:

Lecture from text and supplemental materials
Videos / Guest Speaker(s) on relevant issues

Grading:

Quizzes – 5% each (4 Quizzes – Total: 20%)
Mid Term – 30%
Final Exam – 30%
Paper Presentation – 5%
Paper – 15%
Total: 100%

Other:

Class Attendance / Participation – Students are expected to attend every class, be prepared to share / discuss information from the reading(s)

Quizzes will be take home multiple choice.

Exams will be take home essay.

Written Report is a minimum 8 pages but no more than 10 pages long. A topic approval form must be submitted to the instructor by February 20, 2013. The paper must have at least five references; one reference must be from an academic journal, the rest must be from academically acceptable sources. The presentation of the paper will count for five points of the final grade.

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

The paper will be 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 automatic 25 point reduction in the paper grade.

Grades will be posted and returned to the student as assignments are completed.

Breaks are flexible

Phones are to be on vibrate and only to be answered in an emergency (with prior discussion with instructor) **No texting during class.**

Food / drink allowed

Meetings scheduled as needed

Plagiarism – see Student Handbook

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

College Withdrawal Policy

Student must complete this through Registrar's Office.

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) 892-5751.