

Imperial Valley College

Administration of Justice

Course Syllabus

COURSE NO.
AJ 104 (CRN 20404)

COURSE TITLE
Legal Aspects of Evidence

INSTRUCTOR
Glenn Granish - Room 211

Office Phone: (760) 355-6280

TEXTBOOKS
California Criminal Evidence Guide:
A Handbook for the Criminal Justice Student,
Raymond Hill, Santa Rosa Junior College

Glenn.Granish@Imperial.edu
ggranish@yahoo.com

TERM
Spring 2014

UNITS
3

CLASS TIMES
Monday 8:35am - 11:45am

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an introductory course covering the California Evidence Code, Law of Search and Seizure, Legal Aspects of Admissions and Confessions, and Methods of Identification. The class will also cover: Origin, development, philosophy, and constitutional basis of evidence; constitutional and procedural considerations affecting arrest, search and seizure; kinds and degrees of evidence and rules governing admissibility; to include judicial decisions interpreting individual rights and case studies.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the historical development and the constitutionality of the rules of evidence.
2. Explain the procedural rules and constitutionality of arrest, search and seizures.
3. Describe the admissibility and categories of privileged communication.
4. Recognize the different requirements and responsibility of lay and expert witnesses.
5. Define hearsay, the rules of admissibility, and the exceptions to the Hearsay Rule.
6. Describe the rules and procedures used to determine the admissibility of confessions and admissions.
7. Identify different kinds of documentary evidence and the rules relating to admissibility.
8. Explain the preservation and custody of physical and scientific evidence.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Describe the historical development and the constitutionality of the rules of evidence and how it ties into the criminal justice system.

2. Explain and identify the procedural rules and constitutionality for arrest, search and seizure.
3. Define hearsay, rules of admissibility, and understand the exceptions to the Hearsay Rule.
4. Critique and argue the different requirements and responsibilities of law and expert witnesses and how it differentiates from other legal systems in the world.

GRADING PROCEDURE:

Total Points:	700 points
Tests: Five tests at 50 points each =	250 points
Term Paper: (Topic Approved by Instructor) =	50 Points
Final Exam =	200 Points
Class Debate =	100/50 Points
Prison Tour =	50 Points
Ride Along =	50 Points
*Bonus (Approved by Instructor) =	*up to 50 Points

A = 700-630 B = 629-560 C = 559-490 D = 489-420 F = 419-0

PLEASE NOTE:

Assignments are due on the date stated on the syllabus. Late assignments are subject to reduction of points. Make every effort to turn in assignments on time or you may receive a zero for that assignment.

Failure to take an exam will result in a zero for that exam unless prior approval is given by the instructor. Exams will be thirty minutes long and will be given at the start of class. If you are late to class, you will not be given extra time to take the exam. Bring a No. 2 Pencil and Scantron form to class on exam days.

You must communicate to your instructor any problems that you are having with the course.

ATTENDANCE:

One of the institutional learning outcomes at IVC is personal responsibility. You will be expected to demonstrate personal responsibility by attending class, showing up on time, and not leaving early. You will be allowed two absences from class before the drop deadline. Do not assume you will be dropped for non-attendance. Missing more than half a class session will count as a full absence.

(It remains your responsibility to drop yourself from all courses that you no longer attend, or you risk getting a failing grade on your transcript.) Refer to page 15 of your Fall Class Schedule 2012 catalogue for "ATTENDANCE AND AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWALS"; you are RESPONSIBLE!

As part of the attendance of this course, will be attending a tour of Centinela State Prison in the latter part of the semester. This tour will be part of the requirements for this course, attending this tour will be the same as if you were to attend class that day.

ACADEMIC ETHICS:

Cheating is defined as copying answers from another student on an exam or assignment, allowing another student to copy answers from you, turning in work as your won that someone else did for you, working with another student on an assignment with the instructor's express consent, or turning in a writing assignment that uses another's words or ideas without crediting the source of the words or ideas.

PLAGIRISM will not be tolerated!

If a student uses the words or ideas of another person without giving that person credit, the student is committing an act of plagiarism.

CHEATING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!

Anyone caught cheating will get a zero for the assignment or exam and may be dropped from the class with the grade of **"F"**.

PARTICIPATION:

Every student is expected to participate in class discussion each week. This includes punctuality, contributions, personal opinions, group efforts if assigned and discussion of issues relating to the current assignment of the class. Newspaper article discussions on how local crime impacts our community, state and federal levels.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR:

Any conduct that disrupts the learning process cannot be tolerated. Anyone engaging in such conduct will be asked to leave the classroom. Talking, whispering, loud yawning, and **CELL PHONES RINGING DURING CLASS** are examples of disruptive behavior because such actions are disrespectful and distracting to the instructor and to other students. Respect your fellow students and instructors at all times.

Your cell phones:

- Cell phones ringing during class is RUDE, to me as the instructor and the other students in the class.
- Phones WILL BE turned off or placed on vibrate.
- IF your phone rings during class, you'll be asked to immediately give the class a two (2) minute presentation to the entire class, of the instructor's choice.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT WHILE IN CLASS!**NOTICE:**

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP & S) Office as soon as possible. [SDP&S, Health Sciences Building 2100, Phone: (760) 355-6312]

STUDENT COUNSELING & HEALTH SERVICES

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the prepaid Student Health Fee. You can find out more about services available for students at <http://www.imperial.edu/students/student-health-center/>. The IVC Student Health Center is located in the Health Science building in Room 2109, telephone 760-355-6196.

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment; students who disrupt that environment can be asked to leave the class. Faculty and students also have the right of due process. For further information regarding student rights and responsibilities please refer to the IVC General Catalog available online at www.imperial.edu.

AJ 104 Legal Aspects of Evidence
(Monday 8:35 to 11:45 pm)

Class Schedule:

Monday	01/27/14	Introduction / History of Evidence and the Legal Process
Monday	02/03/14	U.S. Constitution and Amendments & Introduction to Evidence (Chapter 1)
Monday	02/10/14	Subjects for the Debate will be picked and assigned to groups <u>Test #1</u> / Guest Speaker
Monday	02/17/14	Presidents Day –NO CLASS
Monday	02/24/14	Ways of Presenting Evidence (Chapter 2), Testimony (Chapter 3)
Monday	03/03/14	<u>Test #2</u> // Guest Speaker
Monday	03/10/14	Writings (Chapter 4) & Material Objects (Chapter 5)
Monday	03/17/14	<u>Test #3</u> // Guest Speaker
Monday	03/24/14	Relevant Evidence (Chapter 6) & Competency & Credibility (Chapter 7)
Monday	03/31/14	<u>Test#4</u> // Guest Speaker
Monday	04/07/14	Burden of Proof (Chapter 8) Witness Privileges (Chapter 9) & Hearsay Evidence (Chapter 10)
Monday	04/14/14	<u>Test#5</u> // Guest Speaker
Monday	04/21/14	Spring Break (NO CLASS)
Monday	04/28/14	Class Debate – Subjects already issued to groups/ALL PAPERWORK DUE !
Monday	05/05/14	Prison Tour/ Final Review will be available online on Blackboard under “Resources”
Monday	05/12/14	Final Exam. Term Paper Due/Ride Along paperwork due.