

Basic Course Information

Semester	Fall 2015	Instructor Name	Obed Flores
Course Title & #	Legal Aspects of Evidence (AJ 104)	Email	Obed.Flores@imperial.edu or Obed_flores@casp.uscourts.gov
CRN #	10687	Contact No.	(760) 339-4217
Room	3202	Office	Room 809
Class Dates	Aug. 17 to December 11, 2015	Office Hours	By appointment only
Class Days	Thursdays	Cellular #	(760) 540-4347
Class Times	6:30 p.m. to 9:40 p.m.	Office contact if student will be out or emergency	Please contact me at either no. above.
Units	3 units		

Course Description

Origin, development, and philosophy and constitutional basis of evidence; constitutional and procedural considerations affecting arrest, search and seizure; kinds and degrees of evidence and rules governing admissibility; judicial decisions interpreting individual rights and case studies. (CSU)

Student Learning Outcomes & Course Objectives

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. Identify the historical development and the constitutionality of the rules of evidence and how it ties into the criminal justice system. (ILO2, ILO4)
2. Explain and identify the procedural rules and constitutionality for arrest, search and seizure. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4, ILO5)
3. Identify hearsay, rules of admissibility, and the exceptions to the Hearsay Rule. (ILO2, ILO4)

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.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

CALIFORNIA CRIMINAL EVIDENCE GUIDE: A HANDBOOK FOR THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDENT, 8th Edition, Raymond M. Hill, Halleck Creek Publishing.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Students will be expected to read one to two chapters per week in order to be prepared for the lecture. Quizzes will be provided in order to ensure that students are meeting this requirement.

Evaluation Methodology and Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Your grade in this course is based on the accumulation of percentage points generated from the following: There will be two exams, a mid-term and a final examination. Each one of these exams is worth 30 % of your grade. The lowest test score from the two exams will be dropped. However, the mid-term and final exams **MUST** be taken. Additionally, quizzes will count for the remaining 10% of your grade. Last, extra points can be earned by making oral presentations to the class. A maximum of 10 percentage (extra credit) points can be earned per student, per testing period.

Grades will be based on the following percentages:

90% to 100%	= A
80% to 89%	= B
70% to 79%	= C
60% to 69%	= D
0% to 59%	= F

Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class will be dropped by the instructor. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. **Please note that it is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class should the student no longer desires or is able to continue with the class.** See General Catalog for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. However, it is noted that absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

Classroom Etiquette

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off or placed on vibrate/silent mode during class, unless otherwise excused by the instructor. Should you have the need to take a phone call, please be courteous and step outside before answering the phone.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Please comply as directed.

- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the General Catalog.
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

Academic Honesty

- Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to 'cite a source' correctly, you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, may be dropped from the class and/or the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an "F" in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General School Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) Plagiarism;
- (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment;
- (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination;
- (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment;
- (e) using a commercial term paper service.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

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. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313, if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

Student Counseling and Health Services

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee. We now also have a fulltime mental health counselor. For information see <http://www.imperial.edu/students/student-health-center/>. The IVC Student Health Center is located in the Health Science building in Room 2109, telephone 760-355-6310.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and due process. For further information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC General Catalog available online at http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762

Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. Students can access tutorials at <http://www.imperial.edu/courses-and-programs/divisions/arts-and-letters/library-department/info-lit-tutorials/>

Anticipated Class Schedule / Calendar

CLASS TIME-LINE

<u>WEEK:</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CLASS LECTURE</u>
1	08/20/15	INTRODUCTION
2	08/27/15	CH. 1 & 2
3	09/03/15	CH. 3 & 4
4	09/10/15	Test 1
5	09/17/15	CH. 5
6	09/24/15	CH. 6
7	10/01/15	CH. 7 & 8
8	10/08/15	CH. 9 & 10 / Mid-Term Review
9	10/15/15	Mid-Term Exam (Ch. 1 – 10)
10	10/22/15	CH. 11
11	10/29/15	CH. 11
12	11/05/15	CH. 11
13	11/12/15	Test 2
14	11/19/15	CH. 12
15	11/26/15	Thanksgiving Day
16	12/03/15	CH. 13 & Final Review
17	12/10/15	FINAL (CH. 1 – 13)