SYLLABUS

CJL 2130
Criminal Evidence and Procedure

Instructor’s Name: Dr. Michael T. Reichard
Telephone Number: 253-7787
Office Location: Room 140, Ybor Campus Public Services Technology Building
E-Mail Address: mreichard@hccfl.edu
Class Schedule: Web Based Course

Office Hours:
- Mondays and Wednesdays: 10:00 am to 11:00 am Office
- Tuesdays: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm Office
- Thursdays: 5:00 pm to 11:00 pm On-Line

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An in-depth study of criminal procedures involving the use and handling of evidence. Topics include the categories and types of evidence, admissibility, testimony, and chain of custody.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Define and explain the meaning of relevant evidence.
2. Define and explain the meaning of competent evidence.
3. Identify the different categories of evidence.
4. Identify the different types of evidence.
5. Explain the concept of admissibility of evidence.
6. Explain and apply the concept of hearsay and its exceptions.
7. Define credibility and impeachment.
8. Define and apply the concept of Chain of Custody.
9. Explain the methods for use of notes and reports in court.
10. Identify various techniques for use when testifying in court.

TEXT BOOK:

Gardner, Criminal Evidence, 6th Edition
ASSIGNMENTS:

For each chapter (or set of chapters), the student will be required to read the chapter in the Textbook, view the on-line chapter presentation, and take a chapter quiz. There will be two written assignments and students must participate in two on-line discussions.

SEE THE COURSE SCHEDULE FOR THE LIST OF ASSIGNMENTS

GRADING SYSTEM:

Course grades are based as follows:

A: There are 16 quizzes each worth 15 points each.
B. There are two written assignments each worth 10 points.
C. There are two discussion board topics each worth 5 points.
D. There will be a midterm and a final each worth 100 points.

SUMMARY

16 Quizzes…………………………………………………………240 Points \{15 each\}
Assignments………………………………………………………20 Points \{10 each\}
On-Line Discussions……………………………………….. 10 Points \{5 each\}
Midterm Examination………………………………………..100 Points
Final Examination………………………………………...100 Points

Grading System: A=413 Points
B=366 Points
C=319 Points
D=272 Points
F=0-271 Points

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY POLICY:

Academic Dishonesty in any form, including but not limited to cheating, plagiarism, and falsification of sources, shall not be tolerated and may result in the student(s) involved receiving an “F” for the course.
ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Given the nature of this course, attendance is non mandatory. However, students are required to turn in assignments and log in at the designated times set forth by instructor.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:

1. On-line materials to be read and on-line participation.
2. Preparation of written materials.

REQUEST FOR ACCOMMODATIONS:

If, to participate in this course, you require an accommodation due to physical or learning impairment, you must contact the Office of Services to Students with Disabilities.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

This course is offered completely through the internet using Blackboard. Students must have reliable access to a computer with an internet connection. The course is paced along with the semester, and although students work independently, weekly assignments are given.

HELP WITH BLACKBOARD OR TECHNICAL ISSUES:

If you require assistance with the use of Blackboard, the Learning Management System used at HCC, please contact the HCC IT Help. Include your full name, the course you are enrolled in and a detailed description of the problem you encountered. If you have questions about the course assignments or other questions regarding the course content you need to contact your instructor.

PRIVACY STATEMENT:

Students using online formats for study at HCC do so in a respectful, protected environment. However, this learning environment may at times be viewed by faculty (both current and those learning to become online facilitators), Distance Learning staff, and other experts, who are working with us to maintain the highest quality online courses. Please understand that this is not a secure, private environment.
ISSUES TO REMEMBER

QUIZ AND TEST DEADLINES

All Quizzes and Exams have deadline dates. These dates cannot be altered. You must make sure to take all the quizzes and exams on or before the deadline date. Those dates cannot be extended.

I also suggest you do not leave a quiz or an exam for the last day allowed. If you do and anything goes wrong – such as with your computer or internet connection - nothing can be done. If you attempt to take a test in advance of the last date allowed and something goes wrong, there is time to reset the quiz or exam for you.

ASSIGNMENT DEADLINES

All assignments have deadline dates. I will accept late assignments; however, there will be a one point penalty.

DISCUSSION BOARD DEADLINES

All Discussion Board topics have deadline dates. That is so everyone gets “on” during the same week to “discuss” the topic. Discussion Boards are not just a place to give your opinion on the topic but a place to discuss the topic. If you enter the Discussion Board after the deadline date, there should be no other students and therefore no discussion. Therefore, posting beyond the deadline date does not count toward your grade.

In order to get full credit for the Discussion, you must post the correct number of postings. A response such as “I agree with you” does not count as a posting. Some discussion and commentary needs to take place for full credit.

E-MAILING YOUR INSTRUCTOR

If you wish to E-Mail me about some issue reference this course, please use the WebCt E-Mail system included within this course. If you wish to E-Mail me about some other issue not related to this course, please use my regular college E-Mail, mreichard@hccfl.edu. That is so your E-Mails and my responses can be archived.

STUDY GUIDES

Study Guides for the Midterm and the Final can be found under the “Study Guides” Icon on this course’s home page. The study guides contain a comprehensive review of all topics subject to testing on the Midterm and the Final. Students are strongly encouraged to use the study guides while preparing for their Midterm and Final as well as when reviewing the materials taught throughout this course.
**GRADES**

Grading for this course is by points and is computer generated. Therefore, a single point can make the difference between an “A” and a “B” or between a “B” and a “C”. That means it is important that students take all the quizzes and that you also complete all the assignments and participate in the Discussion Board. A “0” for an assignment or a discussion topic can tip your grade downwards.

**ACCESS CODES**

An Access Code must be purchased for this course. You can purchase it from the bookstore or directly from the publisher through Blackboard. If you are now on-line reading this with a temporary access code, please remember that you must purchase the regular code and that all the quizzes, assignments, and discussion here have deadlines so a delay between the expiration of the temporary access code and your obtaining a regular access code could affect your grade.