

# Syllabus

Section Number: 3008  
Title: AJ3 - Legal Aspects of Evidence  
(CSU) 3 Units (no prerequisites)  
Wednesday: 6:50 - 10:00pm  
Classroom: INST 2001

Instructor: Phillip Smith  
www.lamission.edu/aj/smith.html  
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Message: (661) 816-8048  
Office Hours: 6:00-6:45pm in classroom

## Course Objective (SLOs):

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes (exit skills):

- ❖ Differentiate between the different types of evidence that is introduced into the criminal justice system.
- ❖ Apply the constitutional considerations for legally collecting, preserving and admissibility of evidence.
- ❖ Research a case law decision (case brief).

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed as a lecture class to instruct students in the origins, development and philosophy of criminal evidence law. The course covers the different types of evidence brought into the justice system and the rules governing the admissibility of evidence in court.

## Required Text:

"California Criminal Evidence Guide: A Handbook for the Criminal Justice Student" by Raymond Hill, Santa Rosa Junior College, 10<sup>th</sup> edition, Copyright 1988-2006, Halleck Creek Publishing, (707) 875-9301, ISBN: 0-9620412-1-1-9.

## Course Requirements:

1. Legal Research: Case Brief (1) is required 30%
2. Mid Term #1 & #2 (see back page of this syllabus) 20%
3. Final Exam (see back of this syllabus) 30%
4. Required Homework: Answer T or F review questions at the end of each chapter; which is due at the start of the next class. 20%

# Syllabus

## September 2014

3rd  
10th (Last Day to Add-7<sup>th</sup>)  
17<sup>th</sup> (Last Day to DROP IS 8<sup>th</sup>)  
24th

## October 2014

1st  
8<sup>th</sup>  
**15<sup>th</sup>**  
22<sup>nd</sup>  
29th

## November 2014

5<sup>th</sup>  
12<sup>th</sup>  
**19th**  
26<sup>th</sup>

## December 2014

3rd  
10<sup>th</sup>  
**17th**

Class Introduction  
Introduction to Evidence-1  
Presenting Evidence-2  
Testimony of Witnesses-3

Writings as Evidence-4  
Real Evidence-5  
**EXAM #1 (1 to 5)**  
Relevancy/Competency- 6 & 7  
Burden of Proof-8

Witness Privileges - 9  
Hearsay Evidence-10  
**EXAM #2 (6 to 10)**  
Search & Seizure (4th Admen)-11

Miranda and Testimonial Evidence-12  
Methods of Identification-13  
**FINAL EXAM**

*BASED ON THE POLICE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING (POST) BASIC LAW ENFORCEMENT COURSE CURRICULUM. EXAM QUESTIONS APPLIES UNDERSTANDING AND APPLICATION OF EVIDENCE LAWS AND PROCEDURES. Evidence Course Learning Domains (L.D.) taught in the Police Academies covered in class are;*

- *INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL LAW (LD #5)*
- *LAWS OF ARREST (LD#15)*
- *SEARCH AND SEIZURE (LD#16)*
- *PRESENTATION OF EVIDENCE (LD#17)*

PLAGIARISM/CHEATING POLICY – SEE COLLEGE POLICY IN SCHEDULE OF CLASSES.

**Revised: August 10, 2014.** Syllabus is subject to change without notice. Please note revision date and you are responsible for the most recent updated version that can be found on the AJ web page ([www.lamission.edu/aj](http://www.lamission.edu/aj)). Click on “faculty & staff,” then under the “Academic Affairs” heading, click on “faculty web pages.” Click on my name, syllabus is posted at bottom of that page.