

BUTTE COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

AJ 6 - Evidence

3 Unit(s)

Prerequisite(s): NONE

Recommended Prep: Reading Level IV; English Level III

Transfer Status: CSU

51 hours Lecture

This course examines categories of evidence and legal rules governing its admission and exclusion in the criminal process. (C-ID AJ 124). Graded only.

II. OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Identify and differentiate various types of evidence.
- B. Define and describe key rules of evidence.
- C. Critically evaluate and apply the rules of evidence to specific case facts.
- D. Prepare legal briefs of appellate court decisions.

III. COURSE CONTENT

A. Unit Titles/Suggested Time Schedule

		Lecture	
<u>Topics</u>			<u>Hours</u>
1. Rules of evidence			8.00
2. Types of evidence			8.00
3. Witness competency			8.00
4. Privileged communications			6.00
5. Privilege against self-incrimination			8.00
6. Hearsay			3.00
7. Chain of custody			3.00
8. Identification procedures			7.00
Total Hours			51.00

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- A. Lecture
- B. Homework: Students are required to complete two hours of outside-of-class homework for each hour of lecture
- C. Discussion
- D. Multimedia Presentations

V. METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Homework
- B. Objective and subjective examinations/quizzes
- C. Case analysis
- D. In class exercises/presentations

VI. EXAMPLES OF ASSIGNMENTS

A. Reading Assignments

1. Read six appellate court decisions and be prepared to discuss in class.
2. Read the chapter on qualification of witnesses. Review the law, paying particular attention to the legal standards for witness testimony. Come to class prepared to discuss the legal necessity for competent witness testimony both conceptually and as it relates to a fair trial.

B. Writing Assignments

1. Read the chapter on cross examination. Prepare a one-two page legal brief of a related appellate court decision and orally present in class.
2. Conduct legal research and define specified theories and terminology used in the judicial system.

C. Out-of-Class Assignments

1. Define and summarize instructor provided vocabulary related to evidence within the judicial system.
2. Identify six constitutional legal issues that relate to written statutes and in an essay format summarize each.

VII. **RECOMMENDED MATERIALS OF INSTRUCTION**

Textbooks:

- A. Kenneth S. Broun, Walker J. Blakey. Evidence. 5th Edition. West Group, 2009.

Materials Other Than Textbooks:

- A. Handouts regarding constitutional issues provided by the instructor.

Created/Revised by: John Holland

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