CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS
CRMJ 2230 N1 Law of Evidence

Semester/Year: Spring 2016

Distance Course Credit Hours: 3 All work to be completed online.

This course is an online (distance) course using Casper College’s Moodle platform. Students experiencing difficulties can contact the CC HelpDesk at 307-268-2486 or by email helpdesk@caspercollege.edu. For more technical assistance with Moodle4Me you can also contact the Digital Learning Center, dlc@caspercollege.edu or 307-268-3882.

Instructor’s Name: Maya Russell, J.D., M.A.

Instructor's Contact Information: Email: mrussell@caspercollege.edu

Office Hours:
As this is an internet course (and I am currently living in South Carolina), I am available only by email. I will do my best to return all emails promptly.

Course Description:
This course will examine leading rules and principles of exclusion and selection, burden of proof, nature and effect of presumptions, proof of authenticity, and contents of writings; examination, competency, and privilege of witnesses.

Statement of Prerequisites:
Introduction to Criminal Justice (CRMJ 2120).

Goals and Outcomes:

Casper College General Education Outcomes:

This course’s objectives link to outcomes # 1, 3, 4 and 6.

__X__1. Demonstrate effective oral and written communication
 __2. Use the scientific method
 __X__3. Solve problems using critical thinking and creativity
 __4. Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures and historical perspectives
 __5. Appreciate aesthetic and creative activities
 __X__6. Use appropriate technology and information to conduct research
 __7. Describe the value of personal, civic, and social responsibilities
 ____8. Use quantitative analytical skills to evaluate and process numerical data
**Course Objectives:** Successful students in this course will be able to:

1. Evaluate the rules of evidence and standards by which the admission of proof at trial is regulated (Gen. Ed. Outcome # 3);
2. Identify various types of evidence as well as examine the collection, preparation and presentation of evidence in a court of law (Gen. Ed. Outcome # 3);
3. Investigate the types and roles of witnesses, preparation of witnesses, and become familiar with common witness objections (Gen. Ed. Outcome #3);
4. Research and summarize controversial evidentiary issues arising from recent legal cases (Gen. Ed. Outcomes # 1 and 6).

*Casper College may collect samples of student work demonstrating achievement of the above outcomes. Any personally identifying information will be removed from student work.*

**Methodology:**
Course content will be delivered via readings, online lectures, and videos.

**Class Policies:**
Last Date to Change to Audit Status or to Withdraw with a W Grade:
April 14, 2016.

**Student Rights and Responsibilities:**
Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

**Chain of Command:**
If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

**Academic Dishonesty:** (Cheating & Plagiarism)
Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

**Official Means of Communication:**
Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student’s assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly. This is also, where you will find course evaluation links during course evaluation periods.

**ADA Accommodations Policy:**
If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college’s Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.
Required Text:

Applicable sections of the US Constitution can be found on pages 497-98.

The Federal Rules of Evidence can be found on pages 501-18.

Evaluation Criteria:

Grade Distribution:
- 540-600 points - A
- 480-539 points - B
- 420-479 points - C
- 360-419 points - D
- Less 360 points - F

1. 300 points. **Examinations.**
   Two exams: one midterm and one final (150 points each) will be completed in accordance with the course calendar. Exams will be closed-book, timed (60 minute) proctored examinations. No late exams will be accepted.
   - Students based in Casper must complete their exams at Casper College’s Academic Testing Center. Students are responsible for scheduling exams (go to [http://www.caspercollege.edu/testing/](http://www.caspercollege.edu/testing/)).
   - Students based outside of Casper must locate an approved testing center in their vicinity (go to [http://www.ncta-testing.org/cctc/find.php](http://www.ncta-testing.org/cctc/find.php)) and schedule an appointment in accordance with the course calendar. Students are responsible for any fees and charges associated with testing at a remote center.

2. 20 points. **Student Introduction.** Additional details posted in Moodle. Please make sure all assignments are posted by the due date. Failure to do so will result in a zero assignment grade.

3. 180 points. **Online Chapter Quizzes.** Students must complete eighteen (18) open book quizzes (worth 10 points each) using the *Criminal Evidence: Principles and Cases* textbook. Quizzes will be completed in Moodle. No late quizzes will be accepted.

4. 100 points. **Weekly Homework Assignments.**
   Each week students will be assigned topics relevant to the assigned chapter to research. Students will present their findings to the class in Moodle. Each homework assignment is worth ten (10) points. Students should be careful to properly cite sources. Students will be assessed on their ability to effectively communicate their findings. No late assignments will be accepted.
**Weekly homework assignments will be graded using the following rubric:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Failure to submit</th>
<th>Poor 4 points</th>
<th>Fair 6 points</th>
<th>Good 8 points</th>
<th>Exceptional 10 points</th>
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<tr>
<td>No submission.</td>
<td>Submission was just information cut and pasted off internet with no original thought or effort.</td>
<td>Submission contains one of the following flaws: -unclear writing -poorly organized -does not make reasoned arguments -does not demonstrate complete understanding of the course material.</td>
<td>Submission shows: -understanding of the course material but does not cover the questions completely -does not demonstrate keen critical thinking -fails to properly cite sources -does not provide support for argument</td>
<td>Submission includes exemplary: -writing clarity -use of reason and logic to defend an argument -organization of ideas/completeness -original/critical thinking -proper citations</td>
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LAW OF EVIDENCE CALENDAR (SPRING 2016)

Weekly Quizzes and Homework Assignments are due Mondays at 5:00 p.m. in Moodle in accordance with the calendar below. No late quizzes or assignments will be accepted! Readings should be completed prior to quiz/assignment due dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JAN. 19 (Start of term)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Carefully read syllabus and calendar (print calendar)</td>
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<td>2. Watch instructor introduction in Moodle (available 1/19)</td>
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<th>JAN. 25</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Locate the Criminal Evidence textbook</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Student Introduction (worth 20 points) due 1/25, 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<th>FEB. 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Chapter 1 Quiz due 2/1, 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>2. Chapter 2 Quiz due 2/1, 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Assignment 1 due 2/1, 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<th>FEB. 8</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Chapter 3 Quiz due 2/8, 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>2. Chapter 4 Quiz due 2/8, 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Assignment 2 due 2/8, 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<th>FEB. 16</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Chapter 5 Quiz due 2/16, 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Assignment 3 due 2/16, 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<th>FEB. 22</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Chapter 6 Quiz due 2/22, 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>2. Assignment 4 due 2/22, 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<th>FEB. 29</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Chapter 7 Quiz due 2/29, 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>2. Chapter 8 Quiz due 2/29, 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Assignment 5 due 2/29, 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<th>MARCH 7 - MIDTERM EXAM WEEK</th>
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<td>Evidence Law Midterm Exam (Chapters 1-8, 60 minutes, closed book) must be taken at the Academic Testing Center (ATC) between Monday, March 7 and Thursday, March 10. No late exams will be accepted!</td>
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<td>(Students MUST make appointments with the ATC prior to exam week!)</td>
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<td>Midterm grades will be posted in WebAdvisor no later than March 14, 5:00 p.m.</td>
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| MARCH 14 - SPRING BREAK WEEK - NO CLASS |   |

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MARCH 21
1. Chapter 9 Quiz due 3/21, 5:00 p.m.
2. Chapter 10 Quiz due 3/21, 5:00 p.m.
3. Assignment 6 due 3/21, 5:00 p.m.

MARCH 28
1. Chapter 11 Quiz due 3/28, 5:00 p.m.
2. Chapter 12 Quiz due 3/28, 5:00 p.m.
3. Assignment 7 due 3/28, 5:00 p.m.

APRIL 4
1. Chapter 13 Quiz due 4/4, 5:00 p.m.
2. Assignment 8 due 4/4, 5:00 p.m.

APRIL 11
1. Chapter 14 Quiz due 4/11, 5:00 p.m.
2. Chapter 15 Quiz due 4/11, 5:00 p.m.
3. Assignment 9 due 4/11, 5:00 p.m.

APRIL 18
1. Chapter 16 Quiz due 4/18, 5:00 p.m.
2. Assignment 10 due 4/18, 5:00 p.m.

APRIL 25
1. Chapter 17 Quiz due 4/25, 5:00 p.m.

MAY 2
1. Chapter 18 Quiz due 5/2, 5:00 p.m.
2. Review for Final Exam

MAY 9 - FINAL EXAM WEEK
Evidence Law Final Exam (Chapters 9-18, 60 minutes, closed book) must be taken at the Academic Testing Center (ATC) between Monday, May 9 and Thursday, May 12, 2016. No late exams will be accepted!

Students should make exam appointments prior to exam week!

Final Grades will be posted in Webadvisor no later than May 16, 5:00 p.m.