

EMPIRE COLLEGE SCHOOL OF LAW

SYLLABUS-Fall 2010/Spring 2011 (revised: 12.6.2010)

- Course number :** F221/S221
- Course Name:** EVIDENCE
- Professor :** Hon. Allan D. Hardcastle
707/521-6724 email: ahardcas@sonomacourt.org
- Prerequisites:** First Year
- Semester:** Fall 2010/Spring 2011 Tuesday, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. (both semesters)
- Required Texts:** Mendez, *Evidence, The California Code and the Federal Rules, A Problem Approach*, Fourth Edition, 2008, Thomson and West, publisher.
ISBN: 978-0-314-18366-8.
- Also by author for background but not class discussion: Mendez: *Evidence – A Concise Comparison of the Federal Rules with the California Code*, 2009.
West ISBN: 978-0-314-90674 Students will also read and discuss recent appellate cases pertinent to evidence.
- Course Description:** The purpose of this course is to develop a solid understanding of the California and Federal rules of evidence and to use such skills in a courtroom setting.
- Class Attendance:** Regular and punctual attendance is essential for the successful completion of law school. Students should plan to attend every class. Students must attend a minimum of 80% of the classes to be eligible to pass the course. Roll will be taken at each class.
- Class Preparation :** Students are expected to be fully prepared to participate in each class. We will, among other topics, discuss the “Questions and Problems” at the end of each section in class. Students are expected to have prepared the first week’s assignments for the first class.
- Grading Policy:** Mid-term 25%. Final 75%. Each examination will have two essays (worth 80%) and one multiple choice series of questions (worth 20%). The multiple choice questions will lower a grade by more than three (3) points. Essays will be graded in five (5) point increments. Class participation can add up to three (3) additional points to the final grade.

90%-100%	A	Outstanding
80%-89%	B	Superior
70%-79%	C	Satisfactory
65%-69%	D	Unsatisfactory
Below 65%	F	No Credit

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FALL SEMESTER 2010

<u>Week</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
1.	Chapter 1: Evidence in Perspective Text pp. 1-26
2.	Chapter 2 – 3.06: Relevance and Character Evidence. Text pp. 25-54
3.	Chapter 3.07-3.14: Character Evidence Text pp. 60-88
4.	Chapter 3.15-3.16: Character Evidence Text pp. 88-123
5.	Chapter 3.17-4.04: Other types of Excluded Evidence Text pp. 123-162
6.	Chapter 4.05-5.04: Excluded Evidence and the Hearsay Rule Text pp. 162-211
7.	Chapter 5.05-6.10 The Hearsay Rule and Exceptions Text pp. 211-255
8.	Chapter 7 Exceptions to the Hearsay Rule Text pp. 256-294
9.	Chapter 8 Exceptions to the Hearsay Rule Text pp. 295-322
10.	Chapter 9.01-9.10 Exceptions to the Hearsay Rule Text pp. 323-353
11.	Chapter 9.11-10.04 Exceptions to the Hearsay Rule Text pp. 353-388
12.	Chapter 10.05-11.06 Exceptions to the Hearsay Rule Text pp. 388-420
13.	Chapter 11.07-13.05 Exceptions to the Hearsay Rule; Authentication; Best Evidence Rule Text pp. 420-461
14.	REVIEW
15.	MIDTERM EXAMINATION

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SPRING SEMESTER 2011

<u>Week</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
1.	Chapter 13.07 – 14.02: Exceptions to the Best Evidence Rule, Competency of Witnesses. Text pp. 461-486
2.	Chapter 14.03 – 15.02: Competency and Credibility of Witnesses. Text pp. 486-517
3.	Chapter 15.03 – 15.07: Credibility of Witnesses, cont. Text pp. 517-548
4.	Chapter 15.07 – 15.11: Credibility of Witnesses, cont. Text pp. 548-586
5.	Chapter 15.12 – 16.03: Credibility of Witnesses, Expert Opinions and Testimony Text pp. 586-625
6.	Chapter 16.04 – 16.10: Expert Testimony and the Opinion Rule Text pp. 625-659
7.	Chapter 17 – 18.03: Role of Judge and Jury; Presumptions. Text pp. 660-694
8.	Chapter 18.04 – 19.03: Presumptions, cont; Judicial Notice. Text pp. 695-739
9.	Chapter 20 -21.01: Privileges; Attorney-Client Privilege. Text pp. 739-776
10.	Chapter 21.02 – 21.08: Attorney-Client Privilege. Text pp. 776-815
11.	Chapter 22.01 – 23.03: Work Product, More Privileges. Text pp. 816-869
12.	Chapter 24.01 – 25.03: More Privileges. Text pp. 870-893
13.	Chapter 26 - 29: More Privileges. Text pp. 894-934. Begin REVIEW
14.	REVIEW
15.	FINAL EXAMINATION