

**Basic Course Information**

Semester	<b>Fall 2017</b>	Instructor Name	<b>Kathy Rodriguez</b>
Course Title & #	<b>Legal Aspects of Evidence AJ 104</b>	Email	<b>Kathy.rodriguez@imperial.edu</b>
CRN #	<b>11207</b>	Webpage (optional)	
Room	<b>Online</b>	Office	<b>3207</b>
Class Dates	<b>08/14/17 - 12/08/17</b>	Office Hours	<b>Monday/Wed Online Hour: 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm Office hours: MW: 12:45 PM-1:15 PM Tue/Thur 7:30 am-8:00 am</b>
Class Days	<b>Online</b>	Office Phone #	<b>760-355-6245</b>
Class Times	<b>Online</b>	Office contact if student will be out or emergency	<b>Rhonda Ruiz 760-355-6280</b>
Units	<b>3</b>		

**Course Description**

This course examines the origin, development, philosophy, and constitutional basis of evidence; constitutional and procedural considerations affecting arrest, search and seizure; kinds and degrees of evidence and rules governing admissibility; judicial decisions interpreting individual rights and case studies

**Student Learning Outcomes**

**Required language:** Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Identify the historical development and the constitutionality of the rules of evidence and how it ties into the criminal justice system. (ILO2, ILO4)
2. Explain and identify the procedural rules and constitutionality for arrest, search and seizure. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4, ILO5)
3. Identify hearsay, rules of admissibility, and the exceptions to the Hearsay Rule. (ILO2, ILO4)

**Course Objectives**

**Required language:** Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the historical development and the constitutionality of the rules of evidence.
2. Explain the procedural rules and constitutionality of arrest, search and seizures.
3. Describe the admissibility and categories of privileged communication.
4. Recognize the different requirements and responsibility of lay and expert witnesses.
5. Define hearsay, the rules of admissibility, and the exceptions to the Hearsay Rule.
6. Describe the rules and procedures used to determine the admissibility of confessions and admissions.
7. Identify different kinds of documentary evidence and the rules relating to admissibility.
8. Explain the preservation and custody of physical and scientific evidence.

**Textbooks & Other Resources or Links**

**Required Information—California Criminal Evidence: A Handbook For The Criminal Justice Student. 11<sup>th</sup> Edition- Author Ray Hill**

**This is your main textbook for the course. The questions contained in the exams will come from this book so read and study it carefully. This textbook takes an in-depth look at the procedures of California Criminal evidence.**

**Course Requirements and Instructional Methods**

**We will be using Canvas to conduct this online course**

Logging into Canvas

- a. Go to <http://imperial.canvas.com> and follow the login instructions to login.
- b. Once logged in, click on the ‘courses’ tab located on the top right of the page.
- c. Click on AJ 100 to enter the course.
- d. Read the course syllabus.
- e. Read the document under Week 1 entitled “Week 1 Online Things to Do.” This outlines exactly what you have to do and by when you have to do it for Week 1.

The online version of this course is not self-paced. There are strict deadlines that need to be met every week. You will be given a list of weekly deliverables that you will be responsible for. You can find these under the appropriate weekly heading (ie. Week 1 ). Any questions you may have about the course can be posted in the ‘Ask the Instructor’ forum inside Blackboard

**Course Grading Based on Course Objectives**

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Assignment Descriptors	Points
1. Quizzes	250 (10)
2. Tests	400 (4)
3. Final Exam	200 (1)
4. Class Assignments	400

5. Discussion Boards	160
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>	<b>1410</b>

**A = 90-100%**

**B = 80-89%**

**C = 70-79%**

**D = 60-69%**

**F = below 60%**

**PLEASE NOTE:** *Assignments are due on the date stated on the syllabus. Late assignments (IF ACCEPTED) are subject to reduction of points. Make every effort to turn in assignments on time or you may receive a zero for that assignment.*

### Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student’s status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student’s responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See General Catalog for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as ‘excused’ absences.
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### Online Classroom Netiquette

- Use appropriate language. Excessive use of “chat” or “instant messaging” jargon is not acceptable for Blackboard discussions.
- Read existing follow-up postings and don’t repeat what has already been said.
- Inappropriate and/or offensive language, especially comments that might be construed as racist or sexist, are not appropriate and will be dealt with on an individual basis.
- Be careful with humor and sarcasm. One person’s humorous comment can be another person’s boorish or degrading remark.
- Do not use all caps in an online environment. Using all caps is considered SHOUTING.
- Use proper spelling, capitalization, grammar, usage, and punctuation. Utilize the Spell Check feature.
- Remember that there are other human beings reading your postings, so treat everyone with respect. Don’t post anything you wouldn’t be willing to communicate face to face.
- Be sure to include relevant information in the Subject line of emails.

### Classroom Etiquette

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class unless otherwise directed by the instructor. Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, with the exception of laptops or iPads for note taking purposes only. Cell phones ringing during class and all electronic devices not put away will be held by the instructor until the end of class. Students violating this policy during a class period will have 5 points deducted from their class
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the General Catalog.
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

### Academic Honesty

- Plagiarism is to take and present as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to correctly 'cite a source', you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials, or assisting others in using materials, which are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file.

Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General School Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to the following:

- (a) plagiarism;
- (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment
- (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination
- (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment
- (e) use of a commercial term paper service

### Additional Help – Discretionary Section and Language

- Blackboard support center: <http://bbcrm.edusupportcenter.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=8543>
- Learning Labs: There are several 'labs' on campus to assist you through the use of computers, tutors, or a combination. Please consult your college map for the Math Lab, Reading & Writing Lab, and Learning Services (library). Please speak to the instructor about labs unique to your specific program
- Library Services: There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the learning center, study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

### Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313 if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

### **Student Counseling and Health Services**

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee. We now also have a fulltime mental health counselor. For information see <http://www.imperial.edu/students/studenthealth-center/>. The IVC Student Health Center is located in the Health Science building in Room 2109, telephone 760-355-6310.

### **Student Rights and Responsibilities**

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and due process. For further information regarding student rights and responsibilities please refer to the IVC General Catalog available online at [http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=doc\\_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762](http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762)

### **Information Literacy**

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to help students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. Students can access tutorials at [http://www.imperial.edu/coursesandprograms/divisions/arts\\_and\\_letters/library-department/info-lit-tutorials/](http://www.imperial.edu/coursesandprograms/divisions/arts_and_letters/library-department/info-lit-tutorials/)