

**CRIMINOLOGY 432/532 – LAW ON EVIDENCE
SPRING 2005 2:15pm – 5:00pm WEDNESDAYS
Mrs. Lisa Kay Decker**

Instructor:	Office Hours:
Mrs. Lisa Kay Decker, J.D. 233 Holmstedt Hall 812.237.2180 (my office) 812.237.2191 (Criminology Office) email: crdecker@isugw.indstate.edu	Mon: 9:00 am - 10:00 am & 12:00 pm -1:00 pm Wed: 9:00 am - 10:00 am, 12:00 pm -2:00 pm & 5:00 pm – 7:00pm Fri: 9:00 am - 10:00 am & 12:00 pm -1:00 pm And by appointment

Required Texts

Gardner & Anderson, Criminal Evidence, Principles and Cases, Publisher: Thomson Wadworth, Edition: 5th 2004, ISBN: 0-534-61551-1, Required

Course Description

This course provides an analysis of the rules of evidence, their functional relationship to the culture in which they operate, and their effect on law enforcement, criminal prosecution, and the correctional processes.

Office Hours

I encourage each and every student to take the opportunity to stop by and see me during my office hours! Although I make every effort to be available during these hours, there are times when conflicts in my schedule require me to vary my office hours. I will make announcements in class, in advance, about additional office hours or changes in office hours. If you want to make sure I will be available to speak with you at a specific time during my office hours, you may make an appointment in advance. If you are unable to contact me about a question or problem, please contact my graduate assistant, Chris Meyer. Chris's contact information is on the course web site under "staff information."

Course Web Site

The web site is an integral part of the course. I will use it to post the syllabus, announcements, reading assignments, grades, course notes, and information on any changes in the class schedule. I also use the e-mail function on the course web site to inform students about changes or important deadlines from time to time. I suggest that you check the web site and your e-mail frequently, especially if you have been absent.

Grading

Grades will be based upon five assignments throughout the semester and a final semester project, and class attendance and participation. The five assignments will vary and may include in-class writing assignments, take-home assignments and more traditional exams. As the date for each assignment approaches, I will provide more specific information about the type of assignment. The assignment for the final semester project will be given during the first few weeks of the semester. There will be no final exam during final exam week. In lieu of an exam you will be required to do the final semester project. **I reserve the right to adjust grades up, based on outstanding class attendance and participation or down based on poor class attendance and participation.** See the following "Tentative Schedule of Assignments and Exams" for reading assignments and projected assignment dates.

THE EXAMS AND ASSIGNMENT WILL BE VALUED AS FOLLOWS:

Assignment 1	20 points
Assignment 2	20 points
Assignment 3	20 points
Assignment 4	20 points
Assignment 5	20 points
Final Semester Project	100 points
Total possible for the course	200 points

GRADING SCALE

A	180 - 200 points
B+	174 - 179 points
B	160 - 173 points
C+	154 - 159 points
C	140 - 153 points
D+	134 - 139 points
D	120 - 133 points
F	0 - 119 points

NOTE FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS - In addition to all other course requirements, graduate students are required to do an additional project, which will be worth 100 points or one-third of your grade. The exact requirements for this assignment will be posted on the course web site within the first few weeks of class.

Tentative Schedule of Assignments and Exams

The following schedule is an **estimate** of the dates for various readings, assignments and exams. **Students will be responsible for knowledge of any changes** to the Tentative Schedule of Assignments and Exams, which may be announced in class. Students are expected to have **completed the assigned readings prior to class and should be prepared to discuss the assigned readings during class.**

January 12 - Introduction to the course and its objectives

January 18 - Be prepared to begin discussion of Chapter 1 – History and Development of the Law of Criminal Evidence

January 26 - Complete discussion of Chapter 1 and begin discussion of Chapter 2 – Important Aspects of the American Criminal Justice System

Complete discussion of Chapter 2. Begin discussion of Chapter 3 – Using Evidence to Determine Guilt or Innocence

Complete discussion of Chapter 3.

Be prepared to begin discussing Chapter 4 – Direct and Circumstantial Evidence and the Use of Inferences

Assignment 1 – Take home exam over Chapters 1-4

Be prepared to begin discussion of Chapter 5 – Witnesses and the testimony of witnesses

February 2 - Complete discussion of Chapter 5 and begin discussion of Chapter 6 – Judicial Notice and Privileges of Witnesses

February 9 - Complete discussion of Chapter 6 and begin discussion of Chapter 7 – The Use of Hearsay in the Courtroom

February 16 - Complete discussion of Chapter 7 and begin discussion of Chapter 8 – Exceptions to the Hearsay Rule

February 23 - Complete discussion of Chapter 8 and review in preparation for Assignment 2

Assignment 2

Be prepared to begin discussion of Chapter 9 – The Exclusionary Rule

Complete discussion of Chapter 9 and begin discussion of Chapter 10 – Where the Exclusionary Rule Does Not Apply

Complete discussion of Chapter 10 and begin discussion of Chapter 11– Evidence Is Admissible If Obtained During an Administrative Function Under the “Special Needs” of Government

Complete discussion of Chapter 11 and begin discussion of Chapter 12 –Obtaining Statements and Confessions for Use as Evidence

Continue discussion of Chapter 12

Complete discussion of Chapter 12 and review Chapters 9 -12 in preparation for Assignment 3.

Assignment 3

March 2 - Be prepared to begin discussion of Chapter 13 – The Law Governing Identification Evidence

March 9 - Complete discussion of Chapter 13 and begin discussion of Chapter 14 – Obtaining Physical and Other Evidence

March 16 - Complete discussion of Chapter 14 and begin discussion of Chapter 15 – Obtaining Evidence by Use of Search Warrants, Wiretapping, or Dogs Trained to Indicate an Alert

(LAST DAY TO DROP A CLASS!!! MARCH 20)

March 21 - March 24 – Spring Break, no classes!! Classes Resume March 28.

March 30 – Complete discussion of Chapter 15

Review Chapters 13-15 in preparation for Assignment 4.

Assignment 4

Be prepared to begin discussion of Chapter 16 – The Crime Scene, the Chain of Custody Requirement, and the Use of Fingerprints and Trace Evidence

Complete discussion of Chapter 16 and begin discussion of Chapter 17–Videotapes, Photographs, Documents, and Writings as Evidence

Complete discussion of Chapter 17 and begin discussion of Chapter 18–Scientific Evidence

Complete discussion of Chapter 18

Review Chapters 16-18 in preparation for Assignment 5

Assignment 5

April 6 -

April 13 – Criminology Department Career Fair

April 20 –

April 27 –

FINAL EXAM DATE

FRIDAY MAY 6 at 10:00 am – CRIM 420 FINAL EXAM