CRJS 3721 - Evidence

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 41972,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Anthony Donofrio

Email: ajdonofrio02@ysu.edu

Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Judge Anthony Donofrio
Instructor Professional Qualifications: Mahoning County Common Pleas Court Judge from 1/1/2019 to present with daily practical application of the Ohio Rules of Evidence; 28 years practice of law and trial practice including general civil, prosecutorial, criminal defense and domestic relations. Juris Doctor, University of Akron School of Law; Bachelor of Science, The Ohio State University.

Instructor Office Location: Criminal Justice Department, Room 2169 Cushwa Hall
Instructor Office Phone: Criminal Justice Department, 330-941-3279

Additional Contact Methods: work 330-740-2154

Email: ajdonofrioi02@ysu.edu

Course Description

3721. Evidence. Admissibility of evidence, the hearsay rule and its exceptions, opinion evidence, circumstantial evidence, documentary evidence, presumptions, corpus delicti, and evidentiary privileges. Prereq.: CRJS 2602. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	Ingram, Jefferson L. (2021) Criminal Evidence 14th edition.		

Taylor Publishing, ISBN 13: 978-0367551933

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Day	Date	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
Mon	8/24		Introduction	
Wed	8/26	Chapter 1	History of Evidence	
Mon	8/31	Chapter 1	Approaches to Criminal Evidence	
Wed	9/2	Chapter 1	Approaches to Criminal Evidence	
Mon	9/7	No Class	Labor Day	
Wed	9/9	Chapter 2	Burden of Proof	
Mon	9/14	Chapter 3	Proof via Evidence	
Wed	9/16	Chapter 4	Judicial Notice	
Mon	9/21		First Exam (Chapters 1-4)	
Wed	9/23	Chapter 4	Presumptions, Inferences, and Stipulations	
Mon	9/28	Chapter 4	Presumptions, Inferences, and Stipulations	
Wed	9/30	Chapter 5	Relevancy and Materiality	
Mon	10/5	Chapter 5	Relevancy and Materiality	

Wed	10/7	Chapter 6	Competency
Mon	10/12	Chapter 7	Witness Examination
Wed	10/14	Chapter 7	Witness Examination
Mon	10/19		Second Exam (Chapters 5-7)
Wed	10/21	Chapter 8	Privileges
Mon	10/26	Chapter 8	Privileges
Wed	10/28	Chapter 9	Opinions and Expert Testimony
Mon	11/2	Chapter 9	Opinions and Expert Testimony
Wed	11/4	Chapter 10	Hearsay Rule
Mon	11/9	Chapter 10	Hearsay Rule
Wed	11/11	No School	Veteran's Day
Mon	11/16		Third Exam (Chapters 8-11)
Wed	11/18	Chapter 11	Documentary Evidence
Mon	11/23	Chapter 12	Real Evidence
Wed	11/25	Chapter 13	Results of Examinations and Tests
Mon	11/30	Chapter 14	Constitutional Issues
Wed	12/2	Chapter 14	Constitutional Issues
Mon	12/7	Review for Final Exam	
Wed	12/9	Final Exam (12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. time subject to change	

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.