

Credit Hours: 3

Contact Hours: This is a 3-credit course, offered in accelerated format. This means that 16 weeks of material is covered in 8 weeks. The exact number of hours per week that you can expect to spend on each course will vary based upon the weekly coursework, as well as your study style and preferences. You should plan to spend 14-20 hours per week in each course reading material, interacting on the discussion boards, writing papers, completing projects, and doing research.

Faculty Information: Faculty contact information and office hours can be found on the faculty profile page.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OUTCOMES

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The course draws upon a mix of problems and cases to examine major evidentiary rules and standards that regulate admission of proof at criminal trial. Concepts include relevance; the use of character and scientific evidence; the definition and use of hearsay; the use of real and demonstrative evidence; the proper method of impeaching witnesses, foundation and authentication requirements; and the law of privileges.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

This course covers the topic of criminal evidence. It begins with a history and development of criminal evidence and examines the difference between direct evidence and circumstantial evidence. Students learn about the importance of witness testimony and examine the rules regarding lay witnesses and expert witnesses. The course also introduces students to the appropriate use of judicial notice and discusses different privileges in evidence law, including who holds the privilege and the scope of the privilege. Students are introduced to the hearsay rule and will examine its exemptions and exceptions. The course covers the exclusionary rule and evidence obtained in violation of this rule and also discusses evidence resulting from valid searches, with special attention to “special needs” searches and administrative searches. Inquiry is made into evidence stemming from confessions, including confessions that violate the *Miranda* rule. The course concludes with detailed examination of physical evidence, crime scene evidence, documentary evidence, and scientific evidence.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Describe the various types of evidence and the Federal Rules of Evidence.
2. Analyze the historical development of the laws of evidence.
3. Evaluate the difference between the burden of proof and burden of persuasion on the prosecution and defense in a criminal trial.
4. Discuss significant rules of evidence including hearsay and the exclusionary rule.
5. Apply the law of privileges including commonly invoked evidentiary privileges.
6. Describe significant topics regarding witness testimony.

PARTICIPATION & ATTENDANCE

Prompt and consistent attendance in your online courses is essential for your success at CSU-Global Campus. Failure to verify your attendance within the first 7 days of this course may result in your withdrawal. If for some reason you would like to drop a course, please contact your advisor.

Online classes have deadlines, assignments, and participation requirements just like on-campus classes. Budget your time carefully and keep an open line of communication with your instructor. If you are having technical problems, problems with your assignments, or other problems that are impeding your progress, let your instructor know as soon as possible.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required:

Gardner, T. J., & Anderson, T. M. (2016). *Criminal evidence: Principles and cases* (9th ed.). Belmont, CA: Cengage Learning. ISBN-13: 9781285459004.

NOTE: All non-textbook required readings and materials necessary to complete assignments, discussions, and/or supplemental or required exercises are provided within the course itself. Please read through each course module carefully.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Due Dates

The Academic Week at CSU-Global begins on Monday and ends the following Sunday.

- **Discussion Boards:** The original post must be completed by Thursday at 11:59 p.m. MT and peer responses posted by Sunday 11:59 p.m. MT. Late posts may not be awarded points.
- **Opening Exercises:** Take the Opening Exercise before reading each week's content to see which areas you will need to focus on. You may take these exercises as many times as you need. The Opening Exercises will not affect your final grade.
- **Mastery Exercises:** Students may access and retake Mastery Exercises through the last day of class until they achieve the scores they desire.
- **Critical Thinking:** Assignments are due Sunday at 11:59 p.m. MT.

WEEKLY READING AND ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

MODULE 1

Readings

- Chapters 1 & 4 in *Criminal Evidence: Principles and Cases*
- Appendix A & Appendix B in *Criminal Evidence: Principles and Cases*
- Van Duisen, M. (2014, August 17). 10 crimes solved by a tiny piece of evidence. Retrieved from <https://listverse.com/2014/08/17/10-crimes-solved-by-a-tiny-piece-of-evidence/>
- Zunker, T. (2013). *Evidence – general concepts* [PowerPoint slides]. Greenwood Village, CO: Colorado State University-Global Campus.

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (25 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Critical Thinking (65 points)

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

Option #1: Report: Shaken Baby Syndrome

Research and report on “shaken baby syndrome” (SBS) and the use of this classification in criminal trials.

1. Find at least two academic references for SBS: one must support the use of the syndrome for prosecution purposes and the other must argue against the use of SBS for prosecution (arguing that SBS is not based on exact science, and that it can be misused by prosecutors against defendants).
2. Address the rules related to the burden on the prosecution and the burden placed on the defendant regarding this syndrome.
3. Finally, identify how at least one other country’s legal system approaches SBS.

Paper Instructions:

- Your paper should be 2-3 pages in length (not including the required title and reference pages).
- Include discussion and citation of at least three credible sources other than the course textbook. You can find these sources in the CSU-Global Library and in the special section for Criminal Justice.
- Your document formatting and source citations should conform to the *CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA*.

Option #2: History of Fingerprints

Research and report on the history of using fingerprints in criminal trials.

1. Describe the development and use of fingerprints at trials and some of the advancements that have taken place, as well as the current concerns with the use of fingerprint evidence in court.
2. Discuss arguments for and against fingerprint evidence in criminal trials, noting whether this evidence can be misused by the prosecution against the defendant.
3. Identify how at least one other country’s legal system use of fingerprints as evidence.

Paper Instructions:

- Your paper should be 2-3 pages in length (not including the required title and reference pages).
- Include discussion and citation of at least three credible sources other than the course textbook. You can find these sources in the CSU-Global Library. Be sure to look through the special section for Criminal Justice.
- Your document formatting and source citations should conform to the *CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA*.

MODULE 2

Readings

- Chapter 5 in *Criminal Evidence: Principles and Cases*
- Sweeny, J., & Slack, J. (2017). Sexting as ‘sexual behavior’ under rape shield laws. *International Journal of Cyber Criminology*, 11(2), 246-260.

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (25 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Critical Thinking (65 points)

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

Option #1: Child Witnesses

According to this week's textbook readings, laws have been enacted to protect children and to minimize emotional damage when it comes to the involvement of children as witnesses. For this assignment, address the following items in a paper.

1. Research the history of children as witnesses in court in order to describe the evolution of legal procedures that regulate practice with respect to child witnesses.
2. Identify statutes that aid children as witnesses.
3. Describe the procedures by which children are aided.
4. Explain how the process protects children while gathering facts to use as evidence.
5. Explain how these laws/statutes you identified in #2, above, relate to the historical reasons why U.S. rules are more restrictive than those established by other countries. (In answering this last question, you may consider evidence law generally and not only laws specific to child witnesses.)

Paper Instructions:

- Your paper should be 2-3 pages in length (not including the required title and reference pages).
- Include discussion and citation of at least three credible sources other than (or in addition to) the course textbook. You can find these sources in the CSU-Global Library. Be sure to examine the Library's special section for Criminal Justice.
- Your document's formatting and source citations should conform to *the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA*.

Option#2: Competent Witnesses

A basic evidentiary prerequisite for a witness is that the witness must be competent. For this assignment, you will write a paper that identifies the basic requirements for a person to qualify as a competent witness.

Your paper should address the following:

1. What are the three basic requirements for a person to qualify as a competent witness? Be sure to provide examples.
2. Research the history of competent witnesses in court and describe the evolution of legal procedures that regulate practice with respect to witness competency.
3. Identify statutes regarding witness competency. Then, describe the procedures by which children are aided as witnesses.
4. Explain how this requirement in #3, above, protects the integrity of a case while gathering facts to use as evidence.
5. Explain how these laws relate to historical reasons why U.S. rules are more restrictive than those established by other countries. (In answering this last question, you may consider evidence law generally, and not only those laws specific to competency of witnesses.)

Paper Instructions:

- Your paper should be 2-3 pages in length (not including the required title and reference pages).
- Include discussion and citation of at least three credible sources other than (or in addition to) the course textbook. You can find these sources in the CSU-Global Library. Be sure to take advantage of the Library's special section for Criminal Justice.

- Be sure that your document formatting and source citations conform to the *CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA*.

MODULE 3

Readings

- Chapters 6, 7, & 8 in *Criminal Evidence: Principles and Cases*
- Confrontation. (n.d.). Legal Information Institute, Cornell University Law School. Retrieved from http://www.law.cornell.edu/anncon/html/amdt6frag6_user.html
- Park, R. (2015). Exporting the hearsay provision of the Federal Rules of Evidence. *Boston International University Law Journal*, 33, 327-342. Retrieved from https://repository.uchastings.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2297&context=faculty_scholarship
- Zunker, T. (2013). *The hearsay rule and its exceptions* [PowerPoint slides]. Greenwood Village, CO: Colorado State University-Global Campus.

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (25 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Critical Thinking (65 points)

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

Option #1: The Hearsay Rule

Research the hearsay rule and the trial *United States v. Hernandez* (1985). Write a 2- to 3-page essay responding to each of the following items.

1. Summarize the hearsay rule and the trial.
2. Describe the final outcome of the appeal by Hernandez.
3. Explain how and why the hearsay rule played such a critical part in this case.
4. Describe your thoughts about the Supreme Court decision, based on the fact that the information from U.S. Customs was factual.
5. If sitting as a U.S. Supreme Court judge, would you have come to the same conclusion? Why or why not?

Paper Instructions:

- Your paper should be 2-3 pages in length (not including the required title and references pages).
- Include discussion and citation of at least two credible sources other than (or in addition to) the course textbook. You can find these sources in the CSU-Global Library. Be sure to take advantage of the Library's special section for Criminal Justice.
- Ensure your document formatting and source citations conform to the *CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA*.

Option #2: The Confrontation Clause

Research and summarize the case of *Davis v. Washington* (2006). Then write a 2- to 3-page essay responding to each of the following items.

1. Describe the reasons why this case was so important with regard to the meaning of testimonial statements and the confrontation clause.
2. Do you agree with the courts in deciding that 911 calls do not constitute testimonial statements?
3. Make an argument for having 911 calls be testimonial, as these calls would violate the Fifth Amendment right of self-incrimination.
4. If sitting as a U.S. Supreme Court judge, would you have come to the same conclusion? Why or why not?
5. In your paper, also address the relationship between the hearsay rule and the confrontation clause.

Paper Instructions:

- Your paper should be 2-3 pages in length (not including the required title and references pages).
- Include discussion and citation of at least two credible sources other than (or in addition to) the course textbook. You can find these sources in the CSU-Global Library. Be sure to take advantage of the Library's special section for Criminal Justice.
- Be sure your document formatting and source citations conform to the *CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA*.

MODULE 4

Readings

- Chapters 9, 10, & 11 in *Criminal Evidence: Principles and Cases*
- Slobogin, C. (2013, April 9). Comparative perspective on the exclusionary rule in search and seizure cases. *Vanderbilt Public Law Research Paper No. 13-21*. Retrieved from <https://ssrn.com/abstract=2247746>

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (25 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Critical Thinking (65 points)

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

Option #1: The Exclusionary Rule

Research and summarize the history of the exclusionary rule in our court system. Then write a 2- to 3-page essay responding to each of the following items:

1. Why was the exclusionary rule implemented?
2. What advantages does the exclusionary rule extend to defendants?
3. Evaluate whether the exclusionary rule may hinder the discovery of the truth.
4. Which is more important and why: punishing guilty defendants or upholding the Constitution and deterring improper police conduct? How does the exclusionary rule factor into your answer?
5. Research and cite two cases in support of your answer. Be sure to reference and discuss the cases, clearly assessing the effect of the exclusionary rule in the case, including whether any exceptions applied. A good place to start research of a case is the CSU-Global Library and the special section for Criminal Justice.

Paper Instructions:

- Your paper should be 2-3 pages in length (not including the required title and reference pages).
- Include discussion and citation of at least two cases. Be sure to take advantage of the CSU-Global Library's special section for Criminal Justice.
- Be sure your document formatting and source citations conform to the *CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA*.

Option #2: Exemption to the Exclusionary Rule

Research the case of *Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole v. Scott* (1998) and summarize the case. Also include the answers to the following:

1. What importance does this case have on the exclusionary rule?

2. What is the basis for this exemption?
3. Do you agree or disagree with this exemption? Why or why not?

Paper Instructions:

- Your paper should be 2-3 pages in length (not including the required title and reference pages).
- Include discussion and citation of at least two cases. Be sure to peruse the CSU-Global Library and the special section there for Criminal Justice.
- Be sure your document formatting and source citations conform to the *CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA*.

MODULE 5

Readings

- Chapters 12 & 13 in *Criminal Evidence: Principles and Cases*
- Jackson, A. (2014). State v. Pierce: Refining the standard for polygraph evidence. *Tennessee Journal of Law & Policy*, 2(2), 1-13. Retrieved from <http://trace.tennessee.edu/tjlp/vol2/iss2/6>

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (25 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Critical Thinking (45 points)

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

Option #1: Employment Experience

Base your detailed answers to this assignment using a specific example(s) from your professional life. If you do NOT yet have professional experience in criminal justice, base your answers

In a well-written paper (one that smoothly integrates your answers), address the following.

- How do you apply critical thinking in making decisions and solving problems in your professional life?
- What are the three most important elements of personal and professional etiquette that you employ in your professional life?
- What are your communication strengths in your professional life? What are your weaknesses?
- What strategies do you employ to stay on-task and on-time in your professional life? How do you manage your professional goals?

Your paper should be:

- 2-3 pages in length (not including the required title and references pages).
- formatted according to the *CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA*.

Option #2: Volunteer Experience

Base your answers to this assignment using a specific example(s) from your volunteer experience.

In a well-written paper (one that smoothly integrates your answers), address the following.

- How do you apply critical thinking to making decisions and solving problems in your volunteering experiences?
- What are the three most important elements of personal and professional etiquette that you employ?
- What are your communication strengths in your volunteering experience? What are your weaknesses?
- What strategies do you employ to stay on-task and on-time? How do you manage your goals?

Your paper should be:

- 2-3 pages in length (not including the required title and references pages).
- formatted according to the *CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA*.

MODULE 6

Readings

- Chapters 14 & 15 in *Criminal Evidence: Principles and Cases*
- Kinports, K. (2017, September 25). Illegal predicate searches and tainted warrants after Heien and Strieff. *Tulane Law Review*. Retrieved from <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3042873>
- Zunker, T. (2013). *Exceptions to the warrant requirement* [PowerPoint slides]. Greenwood Village, CO: Colorado State University-Global Campus.

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (25 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Critical Thinking (65 points)

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

Option #1: Evidence in the Casey Anthony Trial

Research the Casey Anthony trial and then write a 2- to 3-page essay that addresses the following.

1. Summarize the case and trial.
2. Evaluate the findings of the court and critically evaluate criticisms on both sides of the findings.
3. Write a list of the evidence that was provided at trial and specify whether each piece of evidence was physical (real) evidence.
4. Describe pieces of evidence that were **not** provided but that might have been critical in determining the truth of the case.
5. Describe some examples of facts the courts could establish through admissions, stipulations, or judicial notice.
6. Discuss witness testimony, including lay and expert witnesses. Compare and contrast the roles of expert testimony and lay-witness testimony in this case and describe the evidence of both types that were offered.

Paper Instructions:

- Your paper should be 2-3 pages in length (not including the required title and references pages).
- Include discussion and citation of at least two credible sources other than (or in addition to) the course textbook. You can find these sources in the CSU-Global Library. Be sure to take advantage of the Library's special section for Criminal Justice.
- Ensure your document formatting and source citations conform with the *CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA*.

Option #2: Evidence in the Scott Peterson Trial

Research and summarize the Scott Peterson trial of 2003. Then write a 2- to 3-page essay that addresses the following.

1. Summarize the case and trial.
2. Write a list of the evidence that was provided at trial and specify whether each piece of evidence was physical (real) evidence.

3. Describe some examples of facts the courts could establish through admissions, stipulations, or judicial notice.
4. What impact did the use of Global Positioning System (GPS) by the police have on this case, and what did the police have to do in order to obtain GPS evidence?
5. Why did the police believe GPS evidence would assist them in their investigation?

Paper Instructions:

- Your paper should be 2-3 pages in length (not including the required title and references pages).
- Include discussion and citation of at least two credible sources other than (or in addition to) the course textbook. You can find these credible sources in the CSU-Global Library and examine the special section for Criminal Justice.
- Ensure your document formatting and source citations conform with the *CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA*.

MODULE 7

Readings

- Chapters 16 & 17 in *Criminal Evidence: Principles and Cases*
- Hayes, L. (2015, April). Say it to my Facebook: Authentication of social media evidence. Retrieved from https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2658687

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (25 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Portfolio Milestone (70 points)

While there are two options to choose from, you will complete the option that corresponds to that option you have chosen to complete for the final Portfolio Project, due in Module 8.

Option 1: Evidence Chart for Portfolio Project Option #1

For this Portfolio Project Milestone, you will create the Evidence Chart for your Portfolio Project Option #1. You will apply what you have learned about laws of evidence to a Fact Pattern for a case titled *State v. Lauren*, which will serve as a fictional case study for your Portfolio Project.

1. Review option #1 of the Portfolio Project, in the Module 8 folder.
2. Download the evidence chart template that can be used to create the evidence chart for this assignment. (**Note: You may need to add rows and columns to the chart.)
3. In the evidence chart, list and describe all possible evidentiary items and issues of evidentiary law contained in the Portfolio Project Fact Pattern *State v. Lauren*.
4. With regard to each item, identify all the evidentiary rule(s) an attorney could cite to the court to have the item admitted into evidence or suppressed during trial; provide an explanation as to your reliance on the particular rule(s). For purposes of this project, assume the Federal Rules of Evidence (FRE) are the applicable rules as well as any constitutional rules that may apply. You must clearly identify the applicable FRE or other law that applies for each piece of evidence. In some instances, more than one rule may apply.

Option #2: Evidence Chart for Portfolio Project Option #2

For this assignment, you will create the evidence chart for two cases for your Portfolio Project, Option #2. The two cases that you choose, below, will be the basis for your Portfolio Project Option #2, due in Module 8, next week. For this assignment you need to download two documents: the evidence chart template and the Portfolio Project Fact Pattern. These are linked below.

1. Download the evidence chart template

2. Choose two of the following cases to chart:
 - Amy Fisher (1992)
 - OJ Simpson (1995)
 - Timothy McVeigh (Oklahoma City bombing) (1997)
 - Martha Stewart (2003)
 - Zacarias Moussaoui (2006)
 - Mary Winkler (2006)
 - George Zimmerman (2013)
3. Thoroughly research your two chosen cases and chart the evidence in the evidence chart. FindLaw is one of the many online resources to research information on law cases.
4. In the evidence chart, list and describe all possible evidentiary items and issues of evidentiary law contained in the Portfolio Project Fact Pattern. (**Note: You may need to add rows and columns to the chart.)
5. With regard to each evidentiary item listed above, identify all the evidentiary rule(s) an attorney could cite to the court to have the item admitted into evidence or suppressed during trial.
 - a. Provide an explanation as to your reliance on the particular rule(s).
 - b. For purposes of this project, assume the Federal Rules of Evidence (FRE) are the applicable rules as well as any constitutional rules that may apply. You must clearly identify the applicable FRE or other law that applies for each piece of evidence. In some instances, more than one rule may apply.

MODULE 8

Readings

- Chapter 18 in *Criminal Evidence: Principles and Cases*
- Edmond, G. (2015, Dec. 31). Legal versus non-legal approaches to forensic science evidence. *The International Journal of Evidence and Proof*, 20(1), 3-28. Retrieved from <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/1365712715613470>
- Morgenstern, M. (2017, April 3). Daubert v. Frye – A state by state comparison. The Expert Institute. Retrieved from <https://www.theexpertinstitute.com/daubert-v-frye-a-state-by-state-comparison/>

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (25 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Portfolio Project (280 points)

You will complete only one of the two options. Remember that each option requires a Portfolio Milestone deliverable, due in Module 7 and worth 70 points. You MUST complete the same option of Portfolio Milestone and Portfolio Project.

Option #1: Applying the Laws of Evidence to a Fact Pattern

For this Portfolio Project option, you will apply what you have learned about laws of evidence to the Fact Pattern titled *State v. Lauren*, which will serve as a fictional case study for this assignment.

NOTE: In Module 7, you will complete your evidence chart. If you choose to complete Portfolio Project Option #1, you must also complete Portfolio Milestone Option #1 in Module 7. Visit the Module 7 folder for complete details on the Milestone assignment and its grading rubric.

This week, Module 8, you will submit a critical essay that meets the following requirements.

Directions

1. Download and read the Fact Pattern for *State v. Lauren*.
2. For purposes of this exercise, base your answers on the Federal Rules of Evidence (FRE).
3. Discuss the evidentiary issues that arise in *State v. Lauren*. In discussing these legal issues, be clear about the evidentiary rule of law, citing the applicable rule. Apply facts from the case to the law and come to a conclusion on the evidentiary issue.
4. In addition to legal rules, you should discuss at least four relevant cases studied in this course or researched for this project insofar as they are relevant to the legal issue raised in this case.
 - a. Distinguish and/or use analogy to compare the facts from the researched cases to the facts in this case.
 - b. Apply best practices for the organization of your essay: consider addressing each issue with a clear heading or subheading as necessary.
5. While writing your project, be sure to remain objective—that is, don't sway to one side or the other without clear justification. Consider all possible arguments and issues that could be raised with each piece of evidence. Precision is key in addressing legal rules of evidence.
6. Be sure to address the applicable burdens raised in this case.

Paper Instructions:

- Your paper should be 8-10 pages in length (not including the required title and references pages).
- Include discussion and citation of at least four credible sources other than (or in addition to) the course textbook. You can find these sources in the CSU-Global Library and in the special section there for Criminal Justice.
- Format your document and source citations according to the *CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA*.

Option #2: Controversial Rules of Evidence and Proposed Changes with Case Analysis

For this assignment, you will submit a critical essay in which you:

1. discuss controversial areas in evidence law;
2. assess the specific Federal Rules of Evidence that are problematic within those controversial areas and then propose changes; and
3. analyze the two cases you chose and analyzed in the Evidence Chart for your Module 7 Portfolio Milestone Assignment.

NOTE: In Module 7, you will complete your evidence chart. If you choose to complete Portfolio Project Option #2, you must also choose Portfolio Milestone Option #2 in Module 7. Visit the Module 7 folder for complete details on the Milestone assignment and to review its grading rubric.

Directions:

Some rules of evidence such as the *Miranda* warning are controversial, causing arguments over what would best serve the overall needs of society. Indeed, the introduction or preclusion of a single piece of evidence can result in a drastic change in the result of a case.

In your paper, address the following.

1. Select four areas in evidence law where the rules are controversial.
2. What are the controversial rules within each potentially problematic area? What language specifically makes the rule(s) controversial? How would you propose to improve this problematic area of evidence law? In your proposed suggestions for improvement, also include draft language for an improved rule.
3. Research the history of the different areas you find troubling (for example: history of the use of expert witnesses in criminal court proceedings). Some areas you might consider:

- use of DNA evidence
- use of expert witnesses and the guidelines imposed for qualification as an expert
- child witnesses
- defendants' rights at trial
- scientific evidence and reliability issues
- *Miranda* warnings
- privileges
- exclusionary rule and exceptions
- mistaken identification
- warrantless searches
- surveillance.

Note: You are not confined to this list. You may choose other topics and their applicable rules in evidence to evaluate. This list is simply offered as a starting point and does not provide you with the rules you must analyze.

Paper Instructions:

- Your paper should be 8-10 pages in length (not including the required title and references pages).
- Include discussion and citation of at least four credible sources other than (or in addition to) the course textbook. You can find these sources in the CSU-Global Library and in the special section there for Criminal Justice.
- Format your document and source citations according to the *CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA*.

COURSE POLICIES

Course Grading

20% Discussion Participation
0% Opening Exercises
8% Mastery Exercises
37% Critical Thinking Assignments
35% Final Portfolio Project

Grading Scale	
A	95.0 – 100
A-	90.0 – 94.9
B+	86.7 – 89.9
B	83.3 – 86.6
B-	80.0 – 83.2
C+	75.0 – 79.9
C	70.0 – 74.9
D	60.0 – 69.9
F	59.9 or below

IN-CLASSROOM POLICIES

For information on late work and incomplete grade policies, please refer to our [In-Classroom Student Policies and Guidelines](#) or the Academic Catalog for comprehensive documentation of CSU-Global institutional policies.

Academic Integrity

Students must assume responsibility for maintaining honesty in all work submitted for credit and in any other work designated by the instructor of the course. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, plagiarism, reusing /repurposing your own work (see *CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements* for percentage of repurposed work that can be used in an assignment), unauthorized possession of academic materials, and unauthorized collaboration. The CSU-Global Library provides information on how students can avoid plagiarism by understanding what it is and how to use the Library and Internet resources.

Citing Sources with APA Style

All students are expected to follow the *CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements* when citing in APA (based on the APA Style Manual, 6th edition) for all assignments. For details on CSU-Global APA style, please review the APA resources within the CSU-Global Library under the “APA Guide & Resources” link. A link to this document should also be provided within most assignment descriptions in your course.

Disability Services Statement

CSU-Global is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Any student with a documented disability requesting academic accommodations should contact the Disability Resource Coordinator at 720-279-0650 and/or email ada@CSUGlobal.edu for additional information to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

Netiquette

Respect the diversity of opinions among the instructor and classmates and engage with them in a courteous, respectful, and professional manner. All posts and classroom communication must be conducted in accordance with the student code of conduct. Think before you push the Send button. Did you say just what you meant? How will the person on the other end read the words?

Maintain an environment free of harassment, stalking, threats, abuse, insults, or humiliation toward the instructor and classmates. This includes, but is not limited to, demeaning written or oral comments of an ethnic, religious, age, disability, sexist (or sexual orientation), or racist nature; and the unwanted sexual advances or intimidations by email, or on discussion boards and other postings within or connected to the online classroom. If you have concerns about something that has been said, please let your instructor know.