

Piedmont Technical College Course Syllabus

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Prefix/Number: CRJ 236

Title: Criminal Evidence

Responsible Division: Criminal Justice

Last Day to Withdraw from this Course: For the last date to withdraw from this course, consult the current *Student Calendar*.

Course Description:

For course, credit hour, pre-requisite(s) and co-requisite(s) information, visit the Detailed Course Information page: www.ptc.edu/courses/CRJ236.

Textbook and Other Materials:

For textbook information and additional required and/or supplemental materials, visit the [college bookstore](http://www.ptc.edu/bookstore) (www.ptc.edu/bookstore).

Proctored Examinations:

Proctored examinations for distance learning courses taken at non-PTC campuses may require a proctoring fee for each exam taken.

COURSE POLICIES

Course policies are available online through the *Academic Catalog* and *Student Handbook*. Visit the [Course Policies page](http://www.ptc.edu/syllabus/policies) (www.ptc.edu/syllabus/policies) for a detailed list of important policies and more information.

GRADE POLICY

Detailed grading policy information can be found on the [Grading Policy webpage](http://www.ptc.edu/grading-policy) (http://www.ptc.edu/grading-policy). Final grade appeal information is available in the [Academic Catalog](http://www.ptc.edu/catalog/) (http://www.ptc.edu/catalog/).

ACCOMMODATIONS

Accommodations for ADA:

Information is available on the [Student Disability Services webpage](http://www.ptc.edu/ada) (<http://www.ptc.edu/ada>).

TITLE IX HARASSMENT AND SEXUAL ASSAULT INFORMATION

In accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Piedmont Technical College does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its education programs or activities. Title IX protects students, employees, and applicants from sex discrimination in admissions and employment to include discrimination based on gender identity or failure to conform to stereotypical notions of masculinity or femininity. More information regarding Title IX, including contact information for the Title IX coordinators, is available at [Title IX Harassment and Sexual Assault Information](https://www.ptc.edu/about/legal-disclosures/title-ix-harassment-and-sexual-assault-information) (<https://www.ptc.edu/about/legal-disclosures/title-ix-harassment-and-sexual-assault-information>).

RATIONALE

Why do I need this course?

This course is a study of the established rules of evidence from arrest to release in the administration of criminal justice. Moreover, it delivers the key rules of evidence in criminal matters as well as their interpretations and applications and is especially useful for students planning a career in law enforcement or the law. Comprehensive without being encyclopedic or overwhelming, the text gives students the rationale behind the rules and demonstrates how law enforcement officers apply them on the job.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

For program information including required courses, program learning outcomes, gainful employment information and advisement information, refer to the Academic Program webpage. Go to [Academics](http://www.ptc.edu/academics) (<http://www.ptc.edu/academics>), select your program, and then select Credentials Offered.

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course and/or clinical, each student will be able to:

- Students will demonstrate the ability to explain the history and evolution of the laws of evidence.
- Understand the basic rules of evidence and the burden of proof in criminal cases
- Discuss various methods for impeaching witness testimony
- Outline chain of custody from discovery at a crime scene to the admission of evidence at court.
- Describe the hearsay rule and its exceptions in detail
- Conceptualize how documentary and physical evidence is admitted at trial
- Understand the rationale for various evidentiary rules
- Identify the key elements of testifying effectively.
- Distinguish between admissions and confessions and evaluate the requirements of and exceptions to the Miranda warnings.
- Distinguish the essential characteristics of a lay witness and an expert witness and describe the process for using a witness's recorded recollection as evidence.
- Understand the role of the trial judge and the difference between misdemeanor and felonies.
- Understand the goals of Habeas Corpus.
- Understand the rationale for attorney-client privilege.
- Discuss the Fruit of the Poisonous Tree Doctrine.
- Discuss when the federal exclusionary rule does not apply.
- Discuss the explanations for a warrantless search and different types of Search Warrants.
- Understand the difference between confessions versus incriminating statements.
- Contrast the issues in the debate over the problems of mistaken eyewitness identification.
- Define a Terry Frisk & Discuss the Fourth Amendment considerations
- Contrast the issues of when a suspect has the right to privacy.

GENERAL EDUCATION COMPETENCIES

Piedmont Technical College General Education Competencies for All Graduates:

This course may address one or more of the following General Education Competencies (assessment will be stated when applicable):

Communicate effectively.

Assessment:

Writing assignments and critical thinking exercises.

Apply mathematical skills appropriate to an occupation.

Assessment:

N/A

Employ effective processes for resolving problems and making decisions.

Assessment:

Writing assignments and critical thinking exercises.

Demonstrate the basic computer skills necessary to function in a technological world.

Assessment:

Assignments submitted through D2L.

To validate proficiency in the general education competencies, students in some programs will be tested using Work Keys.