

EVIDENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTION and SYLLABUS

SUMMER SESSION II 2014

Professor: Jacqueline M. Houlette
Office: Blakely Advocacy Institute
Office Hours: by appointment before class on MTW

E-mail Address: jhoulette@houlette-gray.com
Telephone: Office - 713-236-7740
Cell - 713-389-0455

Course No.: Law 5357
Class Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:40 p.m. (with a 10 minute break) MTW
Class Dates: June 2, 2014 – July 2, 2014
Final Exam: July 8, 2014 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Textbooks: EVIDENCE, George Fisher, Third Edition Foundation Press
COURTROOM EVIDENCE HANDBOOK – Goode &
Wellborn – 2013-2014 Student Edition, West Publishing

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course examines the reasoning and policies behind the Federal Rules of Evidence and the application of those rules. Topics include relevance, hearsay, impeachment, opinion and expert testimony, authentication and judicial notice.

CLASS PARTICIPATION: Students must be prepared to discuss assigned material at each of the fifteen class meetings. Poor performance in class may result in an unfavorable grade adjustment. Similarly, exceptional performance may be rewarded with a favorable grade adjustment.

ATTENDANCE: The University of Houston Law Center's attendance policy applies. If a student fails to attend eighty percent (80%) of the classes, the student will be dropped from the class.

GRADING: Grades will be based on the final exam and class participation.

FINAL EXAM: The Final Exam will be closed book and will include multiple choice questions, short answer questions, essay questions, and "true/false and explain why" questions.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE AND RELATED READING ASSIGNMENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING ASSIGNMENT</u> (Pages)
6/2/2014	Basic Procedure and Relevance	1-94
6/3/2014	Specialized Relevance Rules	95-144
6/4/2014	Character Evidence	145-212
6/9/2014	Character Evidence/Impeachment	213-317
6/10/2014	Rape Shield Law/Competency	318-373
6/11/2014	Hearsay	374-438
6/16/2014	Hearsay	439-510
6/17/2014	Hearsay	510-585
6/18/2014	Confrontation Clause	586-636
6/23/2014	Confrontation Clause	637 -734
6/24/2014	Lay & Expert Testimony	735-810
6/25/2014	Expert Testimony	810-893
6/30/2014	Authentication/ Best Evidence/ Judicial Notice	894-928
7/1/2014	Foundations and Objections	
7/2/2014	Review	
7/8/2014	Final Exam	

