

# **COURSE OUTLINE**

## **CRIM-210**

### **Criminal Evidence and Procedure**

3 Semester Hours

## **HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

### **Description**

This course examines the principles and techniques of criminal procedure employed during trials to determine the admissibility of physical and testimonial evidence. An analysis of the laws and court decisions relating to the admissibility of evidence is emphasized. Prerequisite: CRIM-101.

### **Overall Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Analyze the role of evidence in the court adjudication process.
2. Examine the concepts of relevance and materiality.
3. Distinguish and examine circumstantial and direct evidence.
4. Analyze the purposes of the hearsay rule.
5. Distinguish hearsay and explain the application of the rule to evidence.
6. Identify and explain the exceptions to the hearsay rule.
7. Define impeachment and analyze impeachment procedures.
8. Analyze the effect of character and reputation evidence on the court adjudication process.
9. Examine and discuss the rationale for privileged communications.
10. Analyze and describe the role of the judge and jury in evaluating evidence.
11. Examine and evaluate the role and qualification of expert witnesses.
12. Describe and analyze the purposes of offers of proof.
13. Distinguish and analyze real and demonstrative evidence.
14. Describe and analyze the components of a criminal trial.
15. Analyze the effect of the rules of evidence on the introduction of evidence in a criminal trial.

## **Major Topics**

1. Introduction to evidence
2. Relevancy
3. Procedural concepts and consequences
4. Circumstantial evidence
5. The hearsay Rule
6. Hearsay Rule Exceptions
7. Impeachment
8. Privilege
9. The role of the judge and jury
10. Burden of proof
11. Expert testimony and Scientific Evidence
12. Real and Demonstrative Evidence

## **Course Requirements**

Grading/Exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

- a minimum of three exams.
- several written assignments and class participation.