

**Criminal Justice (CJS) 213: Evidence and Criminal Procedures (CRN 1032)**  
**Middlesex Community College**  
**Criminal Justice Department**  
**Course Syllabus**

**TIME:** Spring 2017

**PLACE:** Online

**INSTRUCTOR:** Detective Lieutenant Mark Walerysiak  
**Office Hours:** By Appointment (In-person or Online)  
Phone #: 203-537-0119

**E-mail:** Please contact me through the **Message** feature in Blackboard Learn.

**COURSE PREREQUISITES:** None

**TEXT:** Worrall, J. (2015) *Criminal Procedure: From First Contact to Appeal* (Fifth ed.).  
Pearson. ISBN: 978-0-13-349495-2

**I. COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

This course provides students with fundamental principles relative to procedures and processes within the criminal justice system as applied to arrest, use of force, and search and seizure. The course examines the various types of evidence and “proof” in regards to kind, degree, admissibility, competence, and weight.

**II. SPECIFIC LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

1. To acquaint students relative to the procedures and processes within the criminal justice system as applied to arrest, use of force, and search and seizure.
2. To be able to explain the various legal precepts upon which agencies and personnel in the criminal justice system operate.
3. To be able to understand the various types of evidence and “proof” regarding kind, degree, admissibility, competence, and weight.

**III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS- OVERVIEW:**

1. Course materials will be delivered via Blackboard and will enable students to complete their academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. The course is broken down into five units: Unit #1: Chapters 1–2, Unit #2: Chapters 3–5, Unit #3: Chapters 6–9, Unit #4: Chapters 10–12, and Unit #5: Chapters 13–14. Each Chapter features its own learning module.

- The “lectures” for this course consist of PowerPoint presentations with an audio component. PowerPoint presentations will be posted on Blackboard for students to access. It is strongly recommended that students read the PowerPoints and textbook as well as listen to the audio lectures.
- You must contact the instructor **in advance** if you have a good reason to miss an assignment or exam.

**Only students with a prearranged absence will be permitted to make up assignments or exams.**

- Reading assignments must be completed before completing the discussion forum. Questions may be posted on the discussion forum to assure that the readings have been completed, the materials understood, and to stimulate class discussion.
- Assignments must be turned in on time. **Late work will not be accepted.** Instructor reserves the right to modify this rule only in exceptional cases.
- Your grade is the calculation of points earned and total possible points based on the results of:

Two Exams	(15 points each)	30 points
Five Discussion Forums	( 5 points each)	25 points
Five Reading Quizzes	( 5 points each)	25 points
Final Exam	(20 points each)	<u>20 points</u>
		Total: 100 points

**IV. IMPORTANT DATES: SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

- Exams: Due on **Sundays (except for last day of class—Saturday).**

Sunday, March 12	Exam 1 (Chapters 1–5)
Sunday, March 26	Exam 2 (Chapters 6–9)
Saturday, April 1	Final Exam (Chapters 10–14)

- Discussion Forums (Further Exploration): Initial posts due on **Wednesdays. Responses due Sunday.**

Wednesday, March 1	Discussion Forum #1: Initial Post Due
Wednesday, March 8	Discussion Forum #2: Initial Post Due
Wednesday, March 15	Discussion Forum #3: Initial Post Due
Wednesday, March 22	Discussion Forum #4: Initial Post Due
Wednesday, March 29	Discussion Forum #5: Initial Post Due

- Reading quizzes: Due on **Wednesdays.**

Wednesday, March 1	Reading Quiz: Chapters 1–2
Wednesday, March 8	Reading Quiz: Chapters 3–5
Wednesday, March 15	Reading Quiz: Chapters 6–7
Wednesday, March 22	Reading Quiz: Chapters 8–9
Wednesday, March 29	Reading Quiz: Chapters 10–12

## V. EXAMS:

Exams will be online with a two-hour time limit.

They are a combination of multiple choice, true and false, fill in the blank, matching, and short answer. Exam material comes from textbook reading, lecture material, chapter PowerPoints, or any other material posted in the Blackboard Learn shell.

- Exams must be completed before the deadline of 11:59 p.m. on the due dates. Late submissions will absolutely not be accepted.
- Make certain to read all the chapters and complete all assignments prior to starting the exam.
- Note that it is the student's responsibility to make certain that they have a continuous Internet connection for the duration of the exam. Exams will not be reset if Internet access is lost during the exam. Once an exam is submitted or closed, it will not be reopened.
- **Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated and will result in a grade of "F" for the course and immediate referral to the Academic Dean for further disciplinary action.**

## VI. DISCUSSION FORUMS (FURTHER EXPLORATION):

A Further Exploration Discussion is either a hypothetical scenario or a real scenario in which students must analyze or deduce which applicable laws apply and then answer the legal question being asked. The main objective of these questions is for students to utilize critical thinking skills and apply information that they are learning in the course.

There will be Further Exploration questions posted for each discussion forum. Each discussion forum will contain 3–4 Further Exploration questions. Students will select one question and write a response. The questions are located in Blackboard within each discussion. Students must complete all **five** forum discussions.

Each student must post his/her individual response to the Further Exploration questions on the Discussion Board by 11:59 p.m. on Wednesdays of each week. Late work is not accepted.

**Students must interact with other students in the course by posting questions and addressing the initial posts of TWO of their classmates in the discussion forums. Response posts are due by Sunday evening at 11:59 p.m. and are part of the Discussion Forum grade. These responses must be informative and contribute to the advancing knowledge of the topic. "Good job," or "nice post," are not acceptable.**

### **Initial Post of Further Exploration Question in Discussion Forum:**

- Minimum 250 words in length (refers only to the body of your response)
- 12-point font—Times New Roman
- Proper grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure
- Label your Further Exploration question with a title indicating which question was selected

- Supported by two scholarly sources—one will be the textbook, and the second is the student’s choice.
- **In-text citations and references required.**
- Please note that all rules in regards to plagiarism and proper citations must be followed.
- **Type your Further Exploration answer in a word processor program (Microsoft Word, Apple Pages, etc.) and then paste it into the discussion forum AND submit it through the Safe Assign assignment module. The assignment module will check the document for plagiarism. Submission with a high match rate will not be accepted.**
- \*\*\*\*When you have a question about citing information correctly, ASK FOR HELP!\*\*\*\*
- DO NOT send assignments via a message or email—they will not be accepted.

**Response Posts: Requirements:**

- Respond to at least two classmates’ initial posts.
- Each post must be at least 125 words in length.
- 12-point font—Times New Roman.
- Proper grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure.
- There is no Response Post required for the fifth Discussion post.

Please follow the directions and look at the examples located in the Further Exploration folder in Blackboard. Also, be certain to review the grading rubric.

**VII. READING QUIZZES:**

**Reading Quizzes:** Throughout the course students will have to complete a series of Reading Quizzes. Each reading quiz will pertain to assigned chapters in the textbook. The format of the quizzes will consist of multiple choice, fill in the blank, and true/false. The time limit for each quiz will be 30 minutes. Once again, it is the student’s responsibility to ensure that they have continuous Internet access for the duration of the quiz. Quizzes will not be reset if a student loses their connection or closes the exam. There are a total of five reading quizzes.

**VIII. CRIMINAL JUSTICE GRADING SCALE:**

**Letter Grade and Percentage:**

<b>A</b>	<b>93–100</b>
<b>A-</b>	<b>90–92</b>
<b>B+</b>	<b>87–89</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>83–86</b>
<b>B-</b>	<b>80–82</b>
<b>C+</b>	<b>77–79</b>

**Letter Grade and Percentage:**

<b>C</b>	<b>73–76</b>
<b>C-</b>	<b>70–72</b>
<b>D+</b>	<b>67–69</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>63–66</b>
<b>D-</b>	<b>60–62</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>Below 60</b>

## **IX. WITHDRAWAL:**

Students may withdraw from the course only after speaking with the instructor and filing all the proper paperwork. Note: The primary responsibility for initiating a withdrawal rests with the students. Withdrawal from the course is official only when initiated in writing through the Records office, all requested signatures are obtained, and the proper papers are filed with the Records Office by the indicated deadlines.

## **X. ANTI-PLAGIARISM DETECTION SOFTWARE**

SafeAssign, TurnItIn, or other anti-plagiarism detection software products may be used in this course. Anti-plagiarism detection software products assist faculty and students in preventing and detecting plagiarism. Professors may utilize such software in order to check the originality of the academic work students submit in a course by comparing submitted papers to those contained in its database consisting of submitted papers and other sources. Anti-plagiarism detection software returns an “originality report” for each submission. The report is limited in scope to merely identifying passages that are not original to the author of the submitted work and which may include correctly cited quotations and information. Professors and students must carefully review such reports. No adverse action may be taken by a professor with respect to a student solely on the basis of an originality report which indicates the potential for plagiarism.

In this course you may be asked to submit your academic papers and other creative work containing personally identifiable information for originality reporting. By doing so, your work along with personally identifiable information will be retained in the product database and may be subsequently reported out containing your personally identifiable information not only to your professor, but also to professors of other universities and colleges within Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) as part of subsequent originality reports.

You may decline to submit your work for originality reporting. If so, you must be provided an alternative method in which to submit your work. However, your professor, after removing your personally identifying information, may nonetheless submit limited portions of your academic work for originality reporting.

All Further Exploration Discussion Responses must be submitted via a SafeAssign Assignment in the Blackboard Learn shell. Please note that assignments that are not submitted via Blackboard will not be accepted.

## XI. IMPORTANT COLLEGE POLICIES! PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

For information about the college's policies and procedures regarding academic honesty, accessibility/disability services, attendance, audio-recording in the classroom, grade appeals, plagiarism, religious accommodations, weather and emergency closings, and more, please go to the following website: [www.mxcc.edu/catalog/syllabus-policies/](http://www.mxcc.edu/catalog/syllabus-policies/) or scan the QR code with your smart



phone. Also, please become familiar with the policies regarding nondiscrimination, sexual misconduct, and general student conduct at the following website: [www.mxcc.edu/nondiscrimination/](http://www.mxcc.edu/nondiscrimination/).

### NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Middlesex Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, age, sex, national origin, marital status, ancestry, present or past history of mental disorder, learning disability or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression or genetic information in its programs and activities. In addition, the College does not discriminate in employment on the additional basis of veteran status or criminal record.

The following people have been designated to handle inquiries or complaints regarding non-discrimination policies and practices:

- Primary Title IX Coordinator  
Dr. Adrienne Maslin  
Dean of Students/Title IX and Section 504/ADA Coordinator, Middlesex Community College  
[amaslin@mxcc.edu](mailto:amaslin@mxcc.edu)  
860-343-5759  
Founders Hall, Room 123|
- Secondary Title IX Coordinator  
Ms. Anastasia Pych  
Director of Human Resources  
[apych@mxcc.edu](mailto:apych@mxcc.edu)

**Disclaimer:** The instructor reserves the right to amend any portion of this syllabus to meet the educational needs of the students in the course.

**Due Dates: Important – Print and Keep Next to Your Computer:**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Day of the Week</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>	<b>Check if Completed</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>02/26/2017</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>First Day of Class – Log on Review Syllabus/Sign-off Form</b>	
<b>March</b>	<b>03/01/2017</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Discussion Forum #1</b>	
			<b>Reading Quiz #1</b>	
	<b>03/05/2017</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Disc. Forum #1 Response Posts</b>	
	<b>03/08/2017</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Discussion Forum #2</b>	
			<b>Reading Quiz #2</b>	
	<b>03/12/2017</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Exam #1</b>	
			<b>Disc. Forum #2 Response Posts</b>	
	<b>03/15/2017</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Discussion Forum #3</b>	
			<b>Reading Quiz #3</b>	
	<b>03/19/2017</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Disc. Forum #3 Response Posts</b>	
	<b>03/22/2017</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Discussion Forum #4</b>	
			<b>Reading Quiz #4</b>	
	<b>03/26/2017</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Exam #2</b>	
			<b>Disc. Forum #4 Response Posts</b>	
<b>03/29/2017</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Discussion Forum #5</b>		
		<b>Reading Quiz #5</b>		
<b>April</b>	<b>04/01/2017</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>	

## **Topics Covered in Evidence and Criminal Procedure:**

Below is a list of topics that will provide a guide for students during the semester. The students should become familiar with each of these topics. Each topic includes important concepts and vocabulary with which the students will develop competencies.

### **Unit #1 (Chapters 1–2):**

Chapter 1: Introduction to Criminal Procedure:

- The Bill of Rights and sources of rights
- Important issues and trend in criminal justice procedures

Chapter 2: Remedies:

- Remedies for Constitutional Violations
- Exclusionary Rule

### **Unit #2 (Chapters 3–5):**

Chapter 3: Introduction to Search and Seizure:

- When does a “search” and a “seizure” occur
- Justifications

Chapter 4: Searches and Arrests with Warrants:

- Components of warrants
- Arrest Warrant Requirements and search warrant requirements

Chapter 5: Searches and Arrests without warrants:

- Warrantless searches
- Warrantless arrests

### **Unit #3 (Chapters 6–9):**

Chapter 6: Actions Based on Reasonable Suspicion:

- *Terry vs. Ohio*
- Defining a stop, a frisk, and the evolution of stop and frisk.
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Chapter 7: Actions Based on Administrative Justification and Consent:

- Administrative searches
- Consent Searches

Chapter 8: Interrogations and Confessions:

- Due process and voluntariness
- 5<sup>th</sup> Amendment, 6<sup>th</sup> Amendment, and the Exclusionary Rule

Chapter 9: Identification Procedures and the Role of Witnesses:

- Challenges to the identification process.
- Exclusionary rules

**Unit #4 (Chapters 10–12):**

Chapter: 10: The Pretrial Process

- Probable cause hearings and pretrial release.
- Preliminary hearing.

Chapter: 11: Prosecutors, Grand Juries, and Defense Attorneys:

- Role of prosecutor, defense attorney, and grand jury.

Chapter: 12: Plea Bargaining and Guilty Pleas:

- Plea bargaining process and effects
- Elements of a guilty plea and contesting a guilty plea.

**Unit #5 (Chapters 13–14):**

Chapter 13: Rights at Trial:

- Rights to: a speedy trial, impartial jury, and an impartial judge.

Chapter 14: More rights at Trial:

- Rights to: public trial, confrontation, compulsory process, and double-jeopardy.