



# COURSE EXPECTATION LETTER

**Subject:**

AJ 104 Concepts of Evidence

**Email Contact Information:**

[cmitchell@riohondo.edu](mailto:cmitchell@riohondo.edu)

**Catalog Course Description:**

This is an in-depth study of the legal responsibilities of the law enforcement and judicial segment of the administration of justice system which includes a past, present, and future analysis of the procedures of each subsystem within the administration of justice system from initial entry to final disposition, and the relationship each segment maintains with its system members.

After an introduction course, the next logical step is to address the area known as adjective law. This law sets out the basic procedures of law and cases to support the rationale behind the court's decision.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Presented with an example of criminal conduct the students will correctly identify which course of action is appropriate.
2. Given a real-life problem the students will correctly identify which statute(s) has/have been violated.
3. Presented with items gathered at a crime scene the students will correctly identify the type of evidence and its admissibility.

By logging into Canvas you affirm that you are the student who enrolled in the course(s) and are the person who will complete the assigned work. Furthermore, you agree to follow the regulations regarding academic integrity, personal identification and the use of student information as described in BP 5500 (Standards of Conduct) and AP 5520 (Student Conduct Procedures) which are the Rio Hondo College student conduct codes that govern student rights and responsibilities. You acknowledge that failure to abide by the regulations set forth in BP 5500 and AP 5520 may result in disciplinary action, including expulsion from the college.

This is **NOT** a self-paced course. There are firm deadlines in this class. There are assignments due on a regular basis. Please plan your time carefully!

**Textbook:** Please consult the Bookstore for information at (562) 463-7345 or go to [Rio Hondo College Online Bookstore](#)

Over the course of the semester there will be regular instructor student contact.

**Methods of student contact include:**

Methods of regular instructor-student contact and peer review include but are not limited to:

- 1-Instructor narrative feedback and a numerical score on all written assignments (In general, late assignments submitted after the 2nd week will not receive full credit). Do not submit attachments; answer all questions directly thru Canvas.
- 2-Numerical scores on all quizzes.

3-Additional instructor feedback and peer review on discussion topics.

4-Individual instructor contact for specific problems or questions through Canvas, via email at [cmitchell@riohondo.edu](mailto:cmitchell@riohondo.edu), or by calling/texting (801) 953-6173.

5-Zoom meetings as needed.

### **The instructor may drop you for non-participation.**

There will be a one to three business day delay after an add code is used before a student may be able to log on to Canvas.

For students new to online classes, it is highly recommended that you take the Online Orientation through our Online Education website. This will help explain what online classes are like and familiarize you with how the class is laid out. The orientation can be found at: <http://www.riohondo.edu/canvas-orientation/>

Email Responses: Instructors will make every attempt to respond to students in a timely fashion. Responses can take up to 48 hours before a response is received, excluding weekends and holidays.

Disability: A Student with a verified disability may be entitled to appropriate academic accommodations. Please contact your instructor and/or the [Disabled Students & Programs](#) office at 562-908-3420 for more information.

*Modifications and Disclaimer: The instructor reserves the right to modify the content of the course or any course procedure. It is the responsibility of the student to keep apprised of all changes. If the student wishes to drop the class he/she is responsible for initiating the drop. Do not take it for granted that you will be dropped. If you stop working and do not drop the course, you may get an undesirable grade.*

### **Additional Information:**

Writers' Resource Center

Any student needing or desiring assistance for any writing in this course is encouraged to contact the Writers' Resource Center in LR126B or at 562-463-3122 or online at [www.riohondo.edu/wrc](http://www.riohondo.edu/wrc) (Links to an external site.). The WRC provides half-hour conferencing with English instructors on any part of the writing process for all disciplines (English and ENLA excluded). This is a free student service.

No form of plagiarism, cheating, or academic misconduct will be tolerated. Do not submit anyone else's work or material off the Internet (unless you cite the address and sponsor) as your own work because this constitutes academic misconduct. Indicate the reference in all cases. Give credit where credit is due.

### **GRADING AND EVALUATION:**

Course Grade: The writing assignments have a value of 15 points each for a total of 120 points. The final exam has a value of 100 points. The quizzes have a value of 10 points each for a total of 80 points.

Grades are assigned as follows:

270-300=A

240-269=B

210-239=C

180-209=D

0-179=F

"Discussion Board" postings are a sharing of topics for discussion and feedback by classmates and the instructor. Most often there is not a correct answer as societal problems vary and each of our backgrounds impacts our views. There are no points assigned for the discussions but they fall into the category of class participation. When

preparing final grades and a student who has actively participated is only a few points from the next higher grade that grade will be awarded. All of the topics will be related to the class and all students are invited to share their thoughts.

We must embrace our differences, welcome diversity, and opposing points of view. It is mandatory that we show respect for one another and no profanity or demeaning language is acceptable.

No responses that can be viewed as discriminatory will be tolerated.

The goal is to broaden the students thinking and actively participate with one another and the instructor. Topics will be selected from current newsworthy events.

When any issue is fully discussed, examining all points of view, learning takes place. Sometimes it strengthens our beliefs and other times it causes us to change our point of view.

If you feel you need further clarification call Professor Mitchell, day, evening or weekend at 801-953-6173

#### Final Examination:

The final exam will be available on-line between Aug. 4th and Aug. 12th.

#### Attendance:

Students are assumed to be responsible enough to know that college courses require diligent effort. Roll is not called the same as in a campus class for the simple reason that students can "attend" class at any time day or night. Roll is taken by checking the progress of each student to ensure that they are keeping pace with the rest of the class, and that assignments are posted within the required time period. The concern is that students who fall behind in the course work will not complete all of the assignments by the end of the semester, resulting in fewer grade points and a lower grade.

#### Required Texts/Materials:

Criminal Evidence by Norman Garland 6th edition or any recent edition

#### Course Policies:

#### Academic Integrity

Students in this course will be expected to comply with the college policy regarding Academic Integrity. Any student suspected of violating their obligation for any reason during the semester will be required to participate in the procedural process, initiated at the instructor level.