CHS 3595 Forensic Science in the Courtroom Spring 2013

Biology Room 209
Professor Mark Summers, Barry University School of Law
msummers@mail.barry.edu 321 206-5671

Professor Mattheu Miller, University of Central Florida, Office CH 330
mattheu.miller@ucf.edu 407 823-5410, office hours Tuesday 9:00->10:30 Wednesday 9->11:30

Required text Scientific Evidence in Civil and Criminal Cases, 5th edition, Foundation Press

Purpose:
The primary goal of this course is to prepare the forensic scientist for the courtroom and their interaction with the Judicial System as an expert witness. The role of the expert witness is demanding not only in the area of your knowledge of science, but in investigations, law, ethics, communication and education.

Evaluation:

1. Courtroom review paper(s): You are required to visit courthouses at two different locations and write a review of cases observed. One of the reviews must include a criminal case. Reviews will be graded on clarity and conciseness as well as grammar and spelling.
2. CV: Create a profession CV that can be used for both courtroom and application purposes.
3. Exam 1: An exam will be presented by Professor Summers.
4. Exam 2: A final exam will be presented by Professor Summers and Professor Miller,
5. Presentations: In class moot court.

Grading:
1. Exam I (Summers) (2-4-13) 30%
2. Exam II (Summers) (3-18-13) 30%
3. Exam III (Miller) (3-29-13) 10%
4. Moot court (Summers/Miller)(3-15-13) 5%
5. CV (4-5-12) 5%
6. Courtroom review paper(s) (4-12-13) 10%
7. Presentation (show up and ask questions) 5%

Tentative Schedule for Professor Mattheu Miller (Mondays 1hr)
Intro: 1-07-13 Intro to syllabus and calendar of events.
Class 1: 2-11-13 Ethics and Courtroom Demeanor
Class 2: 2-18-13 CV
Class 3: 2-25-13 Qualifying Phase and Cross Examination
Class 4: 3-11-13 Tricks of the trade
Class 5: 3-22 Guest Lecture Sandy James (Toxicologist and Georgetown Law Student)
Class 6: 3-25-13 Guest Lecture Tom Vastrick (Consultant, Document Examiner)
Class 8: 4-1-13 Presentations I (student moot court)
Class 9: 4-5-13 Presentations II (student moot court)
Class 10: 4-8-13 Presentations III (student moot court)
Class 11: 4-12-13 Presentations IV (student moot court)
UCF: Spring Semester 2013
Professor Mark A. Summers
Barry University School of Law
321.206.5671
msummers@mail.barry.edu

FORENSIC SCIENCE: FROM THE CRIME SCENE TO THE COURTROOM
Tentative Friday Lectures

Class 1: 1-11-13
Introduction to the Court System
Overview of a Criminal Case

Class 2: 1-18-13
The Crime Scene and Elsewhere: Legal Constraints on Gathering and Handling Evidence

Read: Crime Scene Investigation: A Guide for Law Enforcement

Read: Some Problems with Warrants
http://www.forensic-evidence.com/site/Police/Pol_Warrants.html

Class 3: 1-25-13
An Expert Witness’ Reports and C.V.’s: Inside and Outside of Court

Read: Guidelines for the Expert Witness
http://www.lectlaw.com/files/exp27.htm

Class 4: 1-28-13 and 2-1-13
Why Use Experts?: Watch Brother's Keeper Review exam
Midterm exam 2-2-13

Classes
5 & 6: 2-8&15-13
Lay Witnesses and Expert Testimony: The Legal Rules

a. Federal Rule of Evidence 701: Lay Witnesses

b. Federal Rules of Evidence 702 & 703: Experts
   1. Proper Qualifications
   2. Proper Topic
   3. Sufficient Basis for Opinion
   4. Relevant and Reliable Methods

Class 7: 2-22-13 & 3-1-13
Experts on the Witness Stand: The Good, The Bad and the Ugly

Read: TBD
Distribute: Case File – *State v. Jones*
Assignment for Class 8: Prepare written questions for cross-examination of FDLE expert witness, Mattheu Miller (5 points). Questions will be the basis for class discussion during Class 8 and will be handed-in at the end of class.

Class 8: 3-15-13 Demonstration and Discussion: Direct and Cross-Examination of Expert Witness in DUI case.

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

1-7 Intro
1-11 Summers C1
1-18 Summers C2
1-25 Summers C3
1-28 Miller Movie
2-1 Summers C4 and review
2-4 Summers (Midterm Exam)
2-8 Summers C5
2-11 Miller C1
2-15 Summers C6
2-18 Miller C2
2-22 Summers C7A & (CV Draft Due)
2-25 Miller C3
3-1 Summers C7B
Spring Break (Visit Courtroom)
3-11 Miller Class 4 Withdraw deadline
3-15 Summer/Miller C8
3-18 Summers Final Exam (2)
3-22 Guest
3-25 Guest
3-29 Miller Exam (3)
4-1 Moot court
4-5 Moot court (CV Due)
4-8 Moot court
4-12 Moot court (Courtroom papers due)