



## **LawShelf Educational Media**

# **Evidence**

### **Course Description**

The Evidence course looks at the tapestry of rules that govern what information can be presented during criminal and civil proceedings. The course focuses primarily on the Federal Rules of Evidence. Covered topics include relevance, character evidence, hearsay, witness testimony, the original documents rule, and many others.

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Research and apply the rules of evidence as they relate to various trial situations;
- Determine whether evidence is relevant to a given situation and whether it is barred by character evidence rules;
- Apply the rules of hearsay to determine whether testimony is hearsay and/or whether a hearsay exception applies;
- Evaluate whether opinion testimony should be admissible from a layperson and/or from an expert in a given circumstance.

### **Final Exam**

Grades and credit recommendations are based solely on a final exam. When students are ready to take the final exam, they should register for a LawShelf account (or simply log in, for those with existing accounts). Go to the video-course page and click “Take the Final Exam” and pay the exam fee, where applicable. Students will be given instructions on how to take the exam. All exams are proctored by the Voice Proctor® proctoring system. An overview of the system is [provided here](#) and it requires no training or learning curve. Grades of 70% or above are considered passing grades and qualify for recommended transfer credit.

The final exam is based on the video course modules. Additional resources detailed in this syllabus are helpful for background and for building greater understanding of the course materials.

Inquiries can be made through the LawShelf Contact form on our website by clicking the “email us” button that appears at the bottom of most LawShelf pages. Transcripts can be ordered via Parchment, as detailed on our website.

## **Case Studies**

Many LawShelf video courses include case studies. These do not necessarily teach new material but are meant to demonstrate how the materials covered in the course are applied by various courts. Concepts covered in the case studies are covered on the final exam; so watching the case studies is necessary before taking the exam. However, it is unnecessary to memorize the facts and details of the cases covered in these case studies.

## **Self-Quizzes**

Video-course modules and case studies feature self-quizzes that consist of practice questions on the materials covered in the videos. These questions are presented for the benefit of the student and are **important to review before taking the final exam** because they are similar in style and substance to the questions on the final exam. These quizzes are not graded or monitored and there is no record of how students answer these questions. Students may answer these questions as many times as they like and are encouraged to keep re-taking the quizzes until they have mastered all the questions.

# **Study Guide**

## **Introductory Videos**

**These videos provide background to help students better understand the main parts of the course, which are the video-course modules below.**

### **Evidence Law: The Rule of Relevance and Admissibility of Character Evidence**

**<https://lawshelf.com/shortvideoscontentview/evidence-law-the-rule-of-relevance-and-admissibility-of-character-evidence/>**

### **Hearsay Evidence**

**<https://lawshelf.com/shortvideoscontentview/hearsay-evidence/>**

### **Evidence Law: Opinion Testimony of Laypeople and Experts**

**<https://lawshelf.com/shortvideoscontentview/evidence-law-opinion-testimony-of-laypeople-and-experts/>**

### **Evidence in Civil and Criminal Cases: The Best Evidence (Original Documents) Rule**

**<https://lawshelf.com/shortvideoscontentview/best-evidence-original-documents-rule/>**

**Evidence of Prior Bad Acts in the Harvey Weinstein Trial**

<https://lawshelf.com/blogentryview/evidence-of-prior-bad-acts-in-the-harvey-weinstein-trial/>

### **Video Course Modules**

These videos constitute the main part of the course and are they sources of the questions on the final exam.

**Evidence Overview**

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursescontentview/evidence>

**Introduction to the Rules of Evidence - Module 1 of 6**

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/introduction-to-the-rules-of-evidence-module-1-of-6>

**Relevance and Character Evidence - Module 2 of 6**

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/relevance-and-character-evidence-module-2-of-6>

**Permitted Uses of Character Evidence - Module 3 of 6**

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/permitted-uses-of-character-evidence-module-3-of-6>

**Other Issues Concerning Evidence - Module 4 of 6**

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/other-issues-concerning-evidence-module-4-of-6>

**Witness Testimony - Module 5 of 6**

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/witness-testimony-module-5-of-6>

**Hearsay - Module 6 of 6**

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/hearsay-module-6-of-6>