



## Course Syllabus

<b>Course Code</b> LAW-435	<b>Course Title</b> Law of Evidence I	<b>ECTS Credits</b> 6
<b>Prerequisites</b> All 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> years core courses.	<b>Department</b> Law	<b>Semester</b> Spring
<b>Type of Course</b> Required/Core	<b>Field</b> Law	<b>Language of Instruction</b> English
<b>Level of Course</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Cycle	<b>Lecturer</b> Dr Demetra Fr Sorvatzioti	<b>Year of Study</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Mode of Delivery</b> Conventional	<b>Work Placement</b> N/A	<b>Corequisites</b> None

### Course Objectives:

The course objectives are to:

Analyse and explain the role of Evidence Law in trials when parties dispute facts. During this course, the rules of admissibility and evaluation of character evidence, hearsay evidence, opinion and expert evidence, similar facts evidence, and circumstantial and direct evidence will be analysed through case law. The course will further include the law for improperly obtained evidence, methods for presenting evidence before the court and judicial discretion rules. A core element of the course is to explain the evolution of evidence law towards a principled and purposive approach with respect to the fair trial right.

**Learning Outcomes:**

After completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

1. Evaluate evidence criteria for admissibility reasons
2. Effectively present arguments to support admissibility or raise objections against it
3. Distinguish between prejudice and bias for evidence admissibility reasons
4. Apply rules related to the use of admissible evidence with respect to the fair trial right
5. Discuss and solve evidence issues when more kinds of evidence appear in a case.

**Course Content**

1. The Role of evidence law and the Language of evidence law
2. Admissibility of evidence: relevance and materiality
3. Relevance, admissibility, and weight of evidence
4. Hearsay evidence
5. Character Evidence
6. Circumstantial v. Direct Evidence
7. Similar facts evidence
8. Opinion and Expert Evidence
9. Witnesses: Competence and compellability
10. Confessions and admissibility. Entrapment and Confessions

**Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:**

Interactive lectures, case law presentations and discussions, group discussions, dialogue via the Socratic method

**Assessment Methods:**

Presentation and in-class participation in discussion, case law research and assignments, exams

**Required Textbooks / Readings:**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author(s)</b>	<b>Publisher</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>ISBN</b>
Evidence	Roderick Munday	Oxford University Press	2022	9780192895660

**Recommended Textbooks / Readings:**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author(s)</b>	<b>Publisher</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>ISBN</b>
Murphy on Evidence	Richard Glover	Oxford University Press	2017	9780198788737
Cross & Tapper on Evidence	Roderick Munday	Oxford University Press	2018	9780199668601
The Modern Law of Evidence	Adrian Keane and Paul McKeown	Oxford University Press	2022	9780192855930
The Law of Evidence	David Paciocco, Lee Stuesser, and Palma Paciocco	Irwin Law	2020	9781552215418