

FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF LAW

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**Evidence - Fall 2014**  
**Professor Maritza Reyes**  
Course No. 6330  
Class No. 3716  
Sec. No. 301

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**General Assumptions:** 2L students know (1) how to brief cases; (2) how to be prepared for class on the first day of class; and (3) how to follow instructions. I will provide additional preparation guidelines for the course during the first day of class. *You must prepare your case briefs by following the guidelines that I include in the Case Briefing document that I posted on TWEN in the Course Materials folder.*

**Required Book and Federal Rules of Evidence (FREs):** Information about the required book should have been made available through the bookstore. In addition, I have posted the information on TWEN.

**READING ASSIGNMENT - Week 1**

**Casebook: Chapter 1 – Relevancy (pages 1 – 22)**

1. General Principles

Cases: *State v. Kotsimpulos*; *State v. Nicholas*; *United States v. Johnson*; *United States v. McRae*; *Simon v. Kennebunkport*; *Fusco v. General Motors Corp.*

Notes: Read all Notes in assigned pages

Besides reading and analyzing the material in the assigned pages in the casebook, including briefing the cases, you MUST read and analyze the text of each FRE discussed (in cases, notes, etc.) AND the corresponding advisory committee notes. I have posted a folder in the course's TWEN page that includes the FREs and advisory committee notes. You may also purchase a supplement with the FREs and advisory committee notes.

**Additional Reading (available in Federal Rules of Evidence folder in the Course Materials Section of TWEN):**

1. 4-26-11 U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice Roberts' Letter to Congress re FREs
2. Questions & Answers re Restyled FREs
3. Index of PDF Documents with Rules (1 page)
4. FREs - Title Page, Foreword, and Amendment effective date (Pages 1 – 6)
5. FREs - Article I. General Provisions (Pages 7 – 9)

**Additional Reading:**

6. § 9:22. *Demonstrative evidence—Definition and general principles* (available through Westlaw by entering the following citation: 5 Federal Evidence s. 9:22)
7. Fla. Stat. § 90.401 (available through your own research)
8. *Using Bloom's Taxonomy to Promote Critical Reading and Thinking* (available through TWEN → Course Materials → Additional Reading Materials folder)
9. *When Pride Still Mattered* (available through TWEN → Course Materials → Additional Reading Materials folder)
10. *How law school teaches you to think like a lawyer* (available through TWEN → Course Materials → Additional Reading Materials folder)
11. What is taught in the Evidence course vs. what is taught in Criminal Procedure? This is an article re amendment to Fla. R. Crim. P. 3.220. The article describes this amendment as a change to the evidence rules (link to article available through TWEN → Course Materials → Additional Reading Materials folder)

**NOTE:** *The Reading Assignments are subject to change to accommodate class mastery of the topics.*