OBJECTIVES AND COURSE DESCRIPTION

The law of evidence governs how facts are determined within an adjudicative process and thus the manner in which truth is defined for legal purposes. It is on the basis of these facts that adjudications are then made. Counsel require a full appreciation of the law of evidence, so that they can advise clients regarding issues such as gathering, preservation and use of evidence in adjudicative proceedings.

The objectives of this course are:

1. To introduce the substantive law of evidence and consider the manner in which the law of evidence is applied in practice;
2. To identify principles of fairness and justice underlying the law of evidence; and
3. To explore issues of professional responsibility related to the gathering, preservation and use of evidence.

METHODOLOGY

Instruction will be comprised of lectures, exercises, and class discussion.

EXPECTED EVALUATION METHODOLOGY (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

It is expected that evaluation will be based on a final examination as well as components such as a midterm paper. The final examination will be in the form of a closed book examination.

May 2018