USF School of Law
FALL 2018 – First Assignment

Course:
LAW 616 - Evidence

Professor:
Jerry Coleman

Course Materials:

First Assignment:
Read Merritt & Simmons study guide & chapters 1-4; read Spiderman criminal case materials (on TWEN). Then note the following: California trial judges read jurors a standard instruction on the difference between direct & circumstantial evidence (but that they are treated equally). That example essentially says that if a witness comes to court to testify he just came in from outside where he observed it to be raining, that would be direct evidence; but if a witness testified he saw a man enter the courthouse from outside, wearing a dripping raincoat & shaking out his umbrella, that would be circumstantial evidence. Everyone should be prepared to create an example of both direct & circumstantial evidence.