

## **Disability, Law and Society**

### **General**

Office: Boyd Law Building, Room 431, phone: 335-9043  
Assistant: Lisa Lammey, Room 469, phone: 335-9088  
Class Meeting: 3:30-6:30 p.m., Mondays, Room 225  
Office hours: Available class days or by appointment

### **I. Class Description**

The objective of this class is to help students understand emerging federal and state disability laws (primarily the federal Americans with Disabilities Act -- "ADA"). One goal of the class is to place in a legal, societal, and historical context the policy issues, statutes and case law in this area. A second goal is to explore the role of lawyers in supporting the full participation in society of individuals with disabilities.

### **II. Required Texts and Reading Materials Available in the Law School Bookstore**

The class reading schedule is provided on the class schedule in Part IV below. Guest speakers could modify the presentation of class materials.

1. Peter Blanck, *The Americans with Disabilities Act and the Emerging Workforce* (1998).
2. Peter Blanck (ed.), *Employment, Disability, and the Americans with Disabilities Act* (2000).
3. Peter Blanck, Charles Siegal, Eve Hill, & Michael Waterstone, *Treatise on the Americans with Disabilities Act* (West, forthcoming, 2003).
4. Case Supplement Materials possible.

### **III. Grading**

Your grade will have two components.

1. The bulk of your grade (95%) will be based on a take home final based on topics discussed in class. The take home final will be distributed on Monday April 14 in class and due **Friday, April 18, at noon, to be handed in to my secretary [she will assign you an exam number]**. The final will be graded anonymously and **limited to ten typed pages** in length (with 12 point font (Times Roman), double spaced, one inch margins, with no footnotes in text of answer), not including a **maximum of two** additional pages of endnotes and/or references (other details will be provided at a later date).

2. Class participation **and** high level of attendance will account for 5% of your course grade. Students will be evaluated on the quality and creativity of class discussion. Students will be allowed to miss up to three classes, provided that you notify me in advance, and you request from videotaping services to review the class on videotape. More than three non-approved class absences will require withdrawal from the class.

#### **IV. Working Syllabus and Required Readings**

*Reading assignments refer to “ADA” = 1998 Emerging Workforce book; “Employment” = edited 2000 volume; “West” = Treatise Draft; and “Supplement” = case supplement.*

- January 13** Introduction to Class & Overview -- ADA xi - 10; Employment xi – 50; West x-xx. Video “The Ten Commandments.”
- January 20** No class -- holiday
- January 27** Employment (ADA Title I) overview, Definition of Disability, and “Qualified Individual with a Disability”– ADA pp. 29-38; Employment 103-45; West xx-xx.
- January 30** **Thursday Make-Up Class** -- Law, Health Policy & Disability Center, Employment Law and Policy Conference. Students must attend one of the conference sessions, preferably the talk by the luncheon speaker between 12-1 PM [lunch not provided for students], conference in **Levitt Auditorium**.
- February 3** Qualified Individual with a Mental Disability – Employment 146-200; West xx-xx. Video: “When Billy Broke his Head.”
- February 6** **Thursday Make-Up Class** -- **Room 235**, 12:40 – 2:10 PM. Reasonable Accommodations – ADA 39-50; Employment 201-57; West xx-xx.
- February 10** Reasonable Accommodation – Employment 258-81; West xx-xx. Video: “People in Motion.”
- February 17** Guest Speakers: Disability Advocacy, Independent Living: Chris O’Hanlon, Keith Ruff, et al.
- February 24** Defenses, Remedies, Attitudes – ADA 51-61; Employment 356-84; West xx-xx.
- February 27** **Thursday Make-Up Class** – **Room 235**, 12:40 – 2:10 PM. Law, Health Policy & Disability Center – Policy and Law Research
- March 3** Law, Health Policy & Disability Center – Accommodations and Employment Research and Applied Policy Projects – ADA 63-80, 97-132; Employment 285-328. Students review center web site projects at [www.its.uiowa.edu/law](http://www.its.uiowa.edu/law).

- March 10** Law, Health Policy & Disability Center – Applied and Participatory Action Research, Policy Change, WIA, TWWIA – ADA 135-192; Accessible Technology Research and Policy – Employment 329-55
- March 17** No class -- spring break
- March 24** Guest Speakers: Families, Adults and Children with Disabilities, Education: Chris O’Hanlon, et al.
- March 31** Government, Society and Disability (ADA Title II) – West xx-xx. Video: “The Struggle to be Normal.”
- April 7** Public Accommodations and Disability (ADA Title III) – West xx-xx. Video: “A Change in Perspective.”
- April 14** Culture and Disability – Employment 387-468. **Take Home Final Distributed.**
- April 21** Segregation and Stigma: Film-- “One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest,” Closing.

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