

CIVIL RIGHTS
Professor Weber
Spring 2009

SYLLABUS

Required Texts: Theodore Eisenberg, CIVIL RIGHTS LEGISLATION: CASES AND MATERIALS (LexisNexis 5th ed. 2004); CIVIL RIGHTS LEGISLATION: CASES AND MATERIALS 2004 SUPPLEMENT (LexisNexis 5th ed. 2004). Additional download and handout materials will be assigned during the semester. Be certain to enroll in Blackboard to receive announcements, updates, links, and other necessary materials.

Description: This course analyzes selected topics in civil rights law, including the Reconstruction Amendments to the Constitution and Reconstruction Era civil rights statutes, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the Education Amendments, the Fair Housing Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Voting Rights Act.

Requirements and Grading: Preparation for class and regular and punctual class attendance are required. There will be a take-home final examination due on the scheduled exam date, which will account for approximately 80% of the student's grade. The remaining 20% will be based on class preparation and participation. Be sure that all cell phones are turned off and that computers are used only for taking notes. All computers must be on mute. The instructor reserves the right to diminish the grade substantially or fail the student if the student is a source of disruption in class.

Office Hours: Regular office hours will be announced in class; appointments outside of regular hours are available by calling (312) 362-8808. Students are encouraged to make use of office hours.

Preliminary Assignment Schedule: The weekly assignment schedule follows. The schedule is likely to be adjusted during the course of the semester. Be sure to refer to the statutory supplement as applicable for each assignment. Where the syllabus indicates "Blackboard" the materials may include document files and links to downloads.

SyllabCRS09

SPRING 2009 PRELIMINARY ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Week	Topic	Reading
1.	Background on civil rights and Fourteenth Amendment	3-60
2.	Section 1983; <i>Bivens</i> actions	60-99; 148-70
3.	Municipal liability; Statutory section 1983	285-335; Blackboard (<i>Gonzaga, Rancho Palos Verdes</i>)
4.	Due process claims	122-46; Blackboard (<i>DeShaney, Youngberg, O'Connor v. Donaldson</i>)
5.	Sections 1981, 1982 and 1985(3)	785-816; 819-67; Blackboard (<i>CBOCS West</i>)
6.	Title VIII–housing discrimination	867-902; Blackboard (<i>Cuyahoga Falls; Meyer v. Holley; City of Edmunds</i>)
7.	Title VII–employment discrimination	933-47; Blackboard (<i>St. Mary's Honor Ctr., Desert Palace</i>); 965-1000
8.	Title VII–employment discrimination	1069-1091; 1108-20; Blackboard (<i>Burlington Northern v. White</i>)
9.	Title VI–federally assisted activity discrimination	Blackboard (<i>Lau</i>); 1229-72
10.	Title IX–sex discrimination in education	1272-89; Blackboard (<i>Gebser, Davis, Jackson</i>)
11.	Voting Rights Act	Blackboard (42 U.S.C. §§ 1973-1973c, 1973f, 1973h-, 1973l; <i>Holder v. Hall; League of Latin American Citizens; Georgia v. Ashcroft</i>)
12.	Americans with Disabilities Act	Blackboard (ADA Amendments Act; <i>Vande Zande; Borkowski, Barnett; Chevron v. Echazabal; Olmstead; Barnes v. Gorman</i>)
13.	Eleventh Amendment immunity	336-400; Blackboard (<i>Lane</i>)
14.	Other immunities	208-75