

DISABILITY LAW  
Professor Weber  
Spring 2009

## SYLLABUS

**Required Texts:** RUTH COLKER, THE LAW OF DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION (LexisNexis 6th ed. 2007); RUTH COLKER, THE LAW OF DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION HANDBOOK: STATUTES AND REGULATORY GUIDANCE (Lexis-Nexis 6th ed. 2007). Please download and print out the 2008 Supplement to the casebook, which is found at this address:

<http://ruthcolker.com/2008Supplement.doc>

You should also download and print out the ADA Amendments Act, which may be found at:

[http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110\\_cong\\_public\\_laws&docid=f:publ325.110.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_public_laws&docid=f:publ325.110.pdf)

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 surveys American law as it relates to people with disabilities. Primary focus is on discrimination in employment, government services, public accommodations run by private entities, and housing. The course will also cover topics such as guardianship and income support programs. International perspectives will be included.

**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 and pagers 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 Statutes and Regulatory Guidance and the ADA Amendments Act as applicable for each assignment. Where the syllabus indicates "Blackboard" the materials may include document files and links to downloads found on the Blackboard site.

SPRING 2009 PRELIMINARY ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Week	Topic	Reading
1.	Disability discrimination generally; selected constitutional issues; defining disability	Text 1-32; ADA Amendments Act
2.	Defining disability	Text 33-90; 102-12; 116-19; 124-30
3.	Employment discrimination	Text 139-196
4.	Employment discrimination	Text 196-261
5.	Employment discrimination	Text 261-304
6.	Educational discrimination: Primary and secondary	Text 305-62
7.	Educational discrimination: Post-secondary	Text 375-88; 405-31; 438-69 (including note 1)
8.	Public accommodations discrimination	Text 455-539
9.	Public accommodations discrimination	Text 540-610
10.	Government services discrimination	Text 631-38; Blackboard: National Federation for the Blind v. Paulson decision; 638-94; 714-21; 791-99
11.	Housing, transportation and telecommunications	Text 757-842; Blackboard: Target settlement & other materials
12.	Guardianship and related topics	Blackboard
13.	Public benefits programs	Blackboard; Text 761-80
14.	Comparative and international law perspectives	Blackboard