COURSE NAME: Disabilities and the Law

COURSE NUMBER: 8815R

PROFESSOR: Bill Dittmeier and Tom O’Donnell

ESSENTIAL PREREQUISITES: None

DESIRABLE PREREQUISITES: Constitutional Law

COURSE BOOKS: Ruth Colker, *The Law of Disability Discrimination* and other articles and materials provided by the professors or guest lecturers

METHOD OF GRADING & APPRAISAL OF STUDENT FOR GRADE:
Grade will be based upon class preparation and participation, a class presentation, and a final exam.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF COURSE AND COURSE CONTENT
This course will review the history of disability discrimination and the early cases and statutes affecting individuals with disabilities. The main focus of the course will be the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act of 1980 (ADAAA), particularly who is entitled to the protection of the ADAAA. The course will examine the requirements of the ADAAA and other federal statutes in the areas of employment, elementary and secondary education, and postsecondary education. The course will also include a review of the requirement that buildings and public accommodations be accessible to individuals with disabilities.

RELEVANCY OF COURSE FOR CAREER PURPOSES: The ADAAA and other federal and state statutes addressing the rights of individuals with disabilities affect all aspects of our society. Employers, cities, states, other governmental entities, the federal government, school districts, colleges and universities, and businesses all have responsibilities under the ADAAA and other statutes to their employees, customers, students, and the public. The passage of the ADAAA has created a heightened interest in the rights of individuals with disabilities and an opportunity for the legal community to provide representation, advice and guidance to individuals with disabilities regarding their rights and to governmental and private entities regarding their obligations.