

EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION LAW

Ronald Turner

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Office Hours: TBA Or By Appointment

I. *Course Description:* This course focuses on employment discrimination law with major emphasis on Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, 42 U.S.C. § 1981, and other statutes.

II. *Required Text:* Zimmer, Sullivan, and White, *Cases and Materials on Employment Discrimination* (8th ed. 2012).

III. *Method of Instruction:* The primary method of instruction and review of assigned materials will be discussion by and between the professor and class participants, and students will be called on and asked questions concerning the readings. Each student must be prepared for each and every class and student participation is expected. Students are responsible for all of the assigned readings, including parts of assignments that are not specifically discussed in class. A student's final grade may be adjusted upward in recognition of exceptional contributions in the classroom (with the emphasis on quality and not quantity) or downward for lack of preparedness.

IV. *Use of Computers and Electronics.* The use of laptop computers during class sessions is permitted. Computers may be used for note-taking purposes only and this rule must be followed without exception. I reserve the right to disallow the use of laptops in the classroom at any time throughout the semester. The use of other electronics, including recording devices, is prohibited during class time. Please be sure that all noise-making devices, including cell phones, are in silent mode or powered off.

V. *Attendance:* The Law Center's attendance policy applies and any student violating that policy by failing to attend at least eighty (80) percent of class sessions will be dropped from the course. A class roll will be circulated each day and each student must initial the appropriate square next to his or her name for the particular date of attendance. Initialing the roll indicates that the student will be in attendance for the entire, and not part, of the class session. Each student is responsible for initialing the roll sheet at each class meeting. If the sheet is not initialed before the professor leaves the classroom at the end of a session, students who have not initialed the roll for that class will be considered and counted absent. Students will not be allowed to argue at a later time that they were actually present on days in which the class roll was not initialed.

As late entrances to class are disruptive, students should arrive at and be seated in the designated classroom before class begins. Habitual tardiness will result in the lowering of a student's final grade. And, with the exceptions of emergencies, students should not leave and re-enter the classroom during a class session.

VI. *Grading:* Students will be graded on the basis of an examination to be given at a time and location scheduled by the Law Center. The examination will be discussed in greater detail later in the semester and is subject to the official University of Houston Law Center grade curve.

VII. *Assignments:* Specific assignments will be posted on my homepage. These assignments may be altered based upon the amount of material covered in class, and any such alteration will be announced.