Perspectives on Disability Rights

COURSE SYLLABUS
DSPS-P/LERN-P

John W. Wilde, Ph.D. Instructor
Student Conference Hours: Friday, 1:00-2:00 p.m.
Instructor’s Office Location: Rosenberg Library, 323
Tel. (415) 452-5484
e-mail: jwilde@ccsf.org

Only grades of Credit and No Credit are given for this 1 Unit class

Course Description: This is a course based upon disability education and employment rights. Students acquire skills to understand rights and obligations relating to accommodations as provided under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Students with disabilities develop self-advocacy skills related to their accommodation needs and learn more about recent legislation pertaining to disability rights. This course also provides information on how people with disabilities can be a positive force for change in public attitudes and perceptions. Since this course is 75% lecture and 25% discussion, students are urged to take careful notes and purchase, in addition to the Required Text, a special notebook to collect handouts, written assignments and lecture notes.

Course Objectives: Student will...

1. Demonstrate acquired knowledge of individual rights to accommodations in education and employment as stated in federal, state and municipal law.

2. Demonstrate acquired knowledge of individual obligations related to accommodation in education and employment.

3. Assess architectural and programmatic barriers that can affect employment and education for people with disabilities.

4. Utilize their understanding of the impact of their disability in the mainstreamed setting.

5. Communicate their disability and accommodation needs as related to their disability.

6. Interpret civil rights legislation pertaining to disability laws.

Required Text: “About Disabilities.” Students are responsible for obtaining course text especially designed to accompany this course. Textbook is on sale in the campus bookstore and students should have book by the third class.
Course Requirements
To Receive Credit

A. Class Project #1. Independently evaluate accessibility compliance of a public facility.

(Note: Students who do not complete PROJECTS and possess required textbook by its due date, receive no credit in the course.)


C. Attend all classes
(Note: Since this is a short-term course, information will have to be presented in an intensive format. Therefore, students are allowed only 2 absences. Students will be dropped from the course if they have more than 2 absences. Further, if a student is late more than 10 minutes for class -- 21 minutes past the hour -- this will constitute one absence.)

D. Completion of Performance Contract -- see page 3 of this syllabus.
E. Completion of final examination.

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Agenda

Topics
“Intro to the Introduction” & prep for the Final Exam on --------
Coping with a disability
Living with a disability
Attitudes toward people with disabilities
The language of disabilities
Myths and bunk about disabilities/Film
History of “the movement”
The Rehabilitation Act of 1973
The Americans with Disabilities Act
The Americans with Disabilities Act and its impact
Architectural Barriers (Field Trip)
Academic adjustment/accommodation procedure/CCSF
The role of the California Department of Rehabilitation
The role of community agencies
The effective lobbyist (Project #1 due)
The “Transitions to Post Secondary Learning” discussion (Project #2 due)

HAVE A GREAT CLASS!!!!!

Note: If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible. See front of this syllabus for my campus office address.
PERFORMANCE CONTRACT

(ALL LINES MUST BE COMPLETED and this sheet is to be submitted to instructor)
(The third week of class, a photo copy of this sheet will be given to you for your records.)

Name____________________________ Social Security #____________________
Address ______________________________________________________________________
Zip Code ________________
Telephone Number________________________
Who suggested that you take this course? ________________________________________
Do you intend to complete and submit all Projects? _________________________________
Are you aware that you will receive no credit in this course if you do not submit Projects? ___
Are you aware that you will be dropped from this course if absent more than 2 times? ______
Are you aware that you must possess the REQUIRED TEXT by the 3rd class? ____________
List at least four (4) reasons why you are taking this course?
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Your signature ________________________________________  Date ____________________