

SEX, GENDER, AND THE LAW (LAW-757), FALL SEMESTER 2022
PRELIMINARY/PROVISIONAL SYLLABUS: COURSE DESCRIPTION ONLY VERSION
PROF. DAVID B. CRUZ

Office: Room 424

Email: dacruz@law.usc.edu

Phone: (213) 740-6830

Assistant: Katie Waitman, Room 451, kwaitman@law.usc.edu, (213) 740-2551

The rights of transgender people are currently probably both more developed and more contested than at any other point in U.S. history. This seminar will explore law's response to questions of sex discrimination and gender identity and expression, with an emphasis upon legal issues facing transgender and intersex persons. The various factual settings in which we will take up these issues may include employment discrimination, family law, birth certificates and other identity documents, incarceration, restroom access, misgendering, athletics, access to medical treatment, and/or others. Some of these topics may include material comparing the law in other countries.

In order for the course to be conducted as a seminar, students will participate actively via Blackboard and in our weekly course meetings. Final grades will be based upon participation and a required research paper; successful completion of the course with a grade of C- or higher will satisfy the upper-division writing requirement. For the research paper, you will have steps due every couple or few weeks to keep you on pace to complete the paper by the end of the semester: select a broad subject within the scope of the course; refine it to a more narrow topic; research a preliminary bibliography; prepare a prospectus (roughly, a fairly detailed kind of outline); write a first draft; and produce a revised final draft. The required textbook is DAVID B. CRUZ & JILLIAN T. WEISS, *GENDER IDENTITY AND THE LAW* (Carolina Academic Press 2021), with additional supplemental materials provided to you by me.

A complete syllabus will be available later on Blackboard.