



National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam

Course:

BL207-D - Human Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Human Rights of Persons with Disabilities

This course delves into the legal and ethical framework surrounding the human rights of persons with disabilities. Designed for a broad audience, it equips you with a comprehensive understanding of the evolving international and national landscape of disability rights.

Course Objectives:

- Gain a thorough understanding of the concept of disability and its evolving definitions.
- Explore the core principles and international instruments protecting the human rights of persons with disabilities.
- Analyze national legal frameworks and policies promoting disability rights in your jurisdiction.
- Critically evaluate the challenges and opportunities in ensuring the full and equal enjoyment of human rights by persons with disabilities.
- Develop strategies for promoting inclusion and advocating for the rights of persons with disabilities.

Course Structure:

Module 1: Understanding Disability

- **Defining Disability:** Exploring various models of disability, including the social model, medical model, and biopsychosocial model.
- **Impact of Disability:** Examining the social, economic, and cultural barriers faced by persons with disabilities.
- **Intersectionality:** Analyzing how disability interacts with other factors like race, gender, and socioeconomic status.

Module 2: International Human Rights Framework

- **The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD):** Dissecting the core principles of the CRPD, including non-discrimination, accessibility, reasonable accommodation, and inclusion.
- **Other Relevant Instruments:** Exploring other international human rights treaties that protect the rights of persons with disabilities, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).
- **Role of International Human Rights Bodies:** Understanding the role of bodies like the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in monitoring compliance with the CRPD.

Module 3: National Legal Frameworks

- **National Legislation:** Examining key national laws and policies promoting disability rights in your specific jurisdiction. This may include laws on accessibility, education, employment, and social protection for persons with disabilities.
- **Implementation Mechanisms:** Analyzing the institutional and budgetary frameworks established to implement disability rights legislation.
- **Monitoring and Reporting:** Exploring the mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of disability rights national laws and reporting obligations under the CRPD.

Module 4: Challenges and Opportunities

- **Accessibility Barriers:** Identifying and analyzing the physical, communication, and attitudinal barriers that hinder full participation of persons with disabilities in society.
- **Discrimination and Marginalization:** Examining various forms of discrimination faced by persons with disabilities and strategies for promoting inclusion.
- **Empowerment and Participation:** Exploring strategies for promoting the self-determination, autonomy, and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in decision-making processes.

Module 5: The Way Forward

- **Emerging Issues:** Discussing contemporary challenges and opportunities surrounding disability rights, such as technology and disability, inclusive disaster risk reduction, and the rights of persons with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities.
- **The Role of Stakeholders:** Analyzing the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders in promoting disability rights, including governments, civil society organizations, the private sector, and individual citizens.

- **Advocacy Strategies:** Developing skills for advocating for legislative change, raising awareness about disability rights, and holding duty-bearers accountable.

Additional Resources:

- A comprehensive reading list will be provided, including relevant legislation, reports by international organizations, scholarly articles, and resources from disability rights organizations.
- Guest lectures from experts in the field of disability rights law, policy, social work, and disability studies may be invited.
- Opportunities for engagement with disability rights organizations or service providers for persons with disabilities may be offered.

By integrating legal analysis with social and ethical perspectives, this course equips you to become a champion for the human rights of persons with disabilities and contribute to building a more inclusive and equitable society.