Disability Studies

The Disability Studies Major investigates, enhances, and complements the understanding of disability by incorporating social, cultural, historical, political, legal and educational perspectives. While the conceptualization of disability changes over time, disability itself is a constant component of human existence. The Disability Studies Major was designed to provide a comprehensive curriculum in Disability Studies that includes the incorporation of the lived experiences of disabled people.

Disability Studies is a minimum admission requirements major, accepting applications at any time.

Eligibility Requirements

• 2.0 UW gpa
• Minimum of 45 credits earned
• Currently attending the UW
• Completed DIS ST/LSJ/CHID 230: Introduction to Disability Studies with a minimum grade of 2.0.

Degree Requirements

Note: Students must also complete the General Education Requirements for the College of Arts and Sciences, including foreign language through 103 or equivalent. Minimum 55 credits, 35 of which must be upper division.

A. Disability Studies Core Courses—ALL of the following (15 credits)
DIS ST/LSJ/CHID 230 (5): Introduction to Disability Studies [AUT]
DIS ST/LSJ/CHID 433 (5): Disability, Law, Policy, and the Community [SPR]
DIS ST/LSJ/CHID 434 (5): Civil and Human Rights Law for Disabled People [WIN]

B. Courses Directly Related to Disability Studies—TWO from Section B list (6-10 credits)

Note: A handful of special topics courses, such as “The History of Eugenics”, may be considered for use in the Directly Related category. Please see the Disability Studies adviser for permission to use a course not on this list.

C. Courses Broadly Related to Disability Studies—ONE course from each subset of the Section C list (16-20 credits)

Identity Theory (3-5 credits)
Value Theory (5 credits)
Science Studies (3-5 credits)
Civil and Human Rights (3-5 credits)

D. Enough Additional Credits from Section B and C lists to Reach the Minimum 55 Credits (5-13 credits)

Any course not on the approved lists must be approved by the Disability Studies adviser.

E. DIS ST 435: Adv. Seminar in Disability Studies OR INDIV 493: Senior Study (5 credits)

A final independent study project/paper on a topic of interest to you within the field of disability studies. This represents the culmination of your studies in disability studies. (This course will also count as 5 credits toward your “Additional Writing” requirement.)
B. Courses Directly Related to Disability Studies—TWO of the following (6-10 credits)

ANTH 305 (5): Anthropology of the Body
ANTH 322 (5): Comparative Study of Death
ANTH 374 (5): Narrative, Literature, and Medical Anthropology
ANTH 376 (5): Anthropology of Disability
ANTH 474 (5): Social Difference and Medical Knowledge
ANTH 475 (5): Perspectives in Medical Anthropology
ANTH 476 (5): Culture, Medicine, and the Body
ANTH 478 (5): Introduction to the Anthropology of Institutions
ASL 201 (5): Intermediate American Sign Language I
ASL 202 (5): Intermediate American Sign Language II
ASL 203 (5): Intermediate American Sign Language III
ASL 305 (3): Deaf Studies
ASL 306 (3): Deaf History

ASL 495 (3): Literature and Poetry
B H 421/DIS ST 421 (5): History of Eugenics
BIS 325 (5): Disability and Human Rights
SOC W 576 (3): Empowerment Practice with Persons with Disabilities
CHID 260 (5): Re-Thinking Diversity
DANCE 235 (3, max. 9): Integrated Dance: Training and Composition
DANCE 336 (3, max. 9): Integrated Dance: History, Methodology, and Praxis
DIS ST/LSJ/CHID 332(5): Disability and Society
DIS ST/LSJ/CHID 430(5): Topics in Disability Studies
LSJ 420 (5): Politics of Rights
PHIL 242 (5): Introduction to Medical Ethics
PHIL 409 (3): Philosophy of Disability

C. Courses Broadly Related to Disability Studies—ONE from EACH subset (16-20 credits)

Identity Theory (3-5 credits)

AES 151 (5): Introduction to the Cultures of American Ethnic Groups
ANTH 207 (5): Class and Culture in America
ANTH 228 (5): Identities: Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality in Anth
ANTH/SISEA 444 (5): Politics of Representation in Modern China
C LIT 211 (5): Literature and Culture
PHIL 206 (5): Philosophy of Feminism
SPHSC 308 (3): Social-Cultural Aspects of Communication
WOMEN 200 (5): Introduction to Women Studies

Value Theory (5 credits)

PHIL 102 (5): Contemporary Moral Problems
PHIL 240 (5): Introduction to Ethics
PHIL 338 (5): Philosophy of Human Rights
PHIL 345 (5): Moral Issues of Life and Death
PHIL 346 (3): Personal Values and Human Good
PHIL 411/MHE 474 (5): Justice in Health Care
PHIL 408 (5): Philosophy of Diversity
SOC WF 200 (5): Introduction to Social Welfare Practice

Civil and Human Rights (3-5 credits)

AES/LSJ 330 (5): Beyond Civil Rights: Law, Culture, and Change
ANTH 323/LSJ 321 (5): Human Rights Law in Culture and Practice
ANTH/SIS/WOMEN 345 (5): Women & International Econ Development
EDUC 305 (5): The Purpose of Public Schools in Democracy
GEOG 342 (5): Geography of Inequality
GEOG 445 (5): Geography of Housing
HSTAS/SISA 245 (5): Human Rights in Asia
LSJ 320/POL S 368 (5): The Politics & Law of International Human Rights
SOC 360 (5): Introduction to Social Stratification
SOC 364 (5): Women in the Social Structure
SOC WF 404 (5): Cultural Diversity and Justice

Science Studies (3-5 credits)

ANTH 308 (5): Anthropology of Women’s Health and Reproduction
ANTH 473 (5): Anthropology of Science and Technology
ANTH 477 (3): Medicine in America: Conflicts and Contradictions
BIO A 101 (5): Human Biological Diversity
BIO A 201 (5): Principles of Biological Anthropology
BIO A 372 (5): Uses and Abuses of Evolutionary Views of Human Behavior
ENGL 264 (5): Literature and Science
ENGL 364 (5): Literature and Medicine
GEOG 380 (4): Geographical Patterns of Health and Disease
GEOG 480 (5): Environmental Geography, Climate, and Health
HSTAA 316 (5): History of American Science
PHIL 459 (5): Philosophy of Medicine