DISABILITY STUDIES

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Disability is a natural part of the human experience but despite its universality, societies past and present have treated the physically or mentally different with fear and antipathy. (The Nazi gas chambers, for example, were first constructed to eradicate persons with mental disabilities.)

Disability Studies from the perspectives of the humanities tries to understand why people with disabilities have been treated as they have and how they should be treated in a twenty-first century democracy like our own, and why.

This minor is designed for students majoring in any of the liberal arts and sciences. For those interested in health care, disability studies complements their science courses by focusing on the social, cultural, and political issues in their future careers, and by concentrating on a population of people that many professions - physical therapy, education, medicine, and psychology, for example - are established to serve.

Students majoring in the social sciences or humanities will be interested in disability studies' analysis of the most fundamental ideas of our culture: body and mind, normality and difference, freedom and rights, beauty and wholeness - all of these "abstractions" and their profound importance may become clearer in classes devoted to exploring their impact on our laws, schools, hospitals, beliefs, and day-to-day lives.

Disability Studies: Requirements for the Minor

ENGL 221	Literature and Disability	4 credits
DS/PHIL 307	Ethics, Medicine, and Health Care	4 credits
DS 200	Introduction to Disability Studies	2 credits
OR		
ENGW 202	Writing About Disability	4 credits
Electives from the following list, 6 credits of which must be upper-division		11-12 credits
DS 204	Working w/ People w/ Disability	4 credits
DS/EXMB 315	Adaptive Physical Education	2 credits
HIST 305	History of Magic and Witchcraft	4 credits
PSJ 105	Introduction to Civic Engagement	2 credits
PSJ/PHIL 240	Human Rights	2 credits
PHIL 202	Ethics and Society	4 credits
POLS 222	Civil Rights Movement	2-4 credits
POLS 321	Protest, Dissent, and Change	4 credits
DS/POLS 325	Constitutional Law	4 credits
DS/PSY 211	Abnormal Psychology	4 credits
SOC 319	Sociology of Medicine	4 credits
SOCWK201	Principles of Social Work	4 credits
SOCWK 351	Social Policy and Justice	4 credits
SPED 300	Foundations of Special Education	2 credits
SPED 305	Exceptionalities	2 credits
SPED 342	Assistive Technology	2 credits

TOTAL: 23-24 credits

COURSES

DS-200 Introduction to Disability Studies
Disability Studies understands disability as referring not only to a biological or medical condition, but also to a community of people (the largest minority in the U.S.); to a civil rights movement; to a complex set of social and ethical issues; to a universal human experience; and to the ways cultures respond to different bodies, minds, and behaviors. The class will help students understand disability in its social, cultural, and ethical dimensions. It will sometimes be taught in Hawaii during Winter. Counts toward core requirement: Diverse Perspectives. Students who have successfully completed ENGW 202: Writing About Disability should not take this course. 2 credits.

DS-204 Working w/People w/Disability
Combines theory and practice to strengthen student understanding of the everyday lives of people with disabilities. Time is divided between classroom learning and working directly with kids, teens, and young adults in the larger community. Students choose among a variety of activities, including summer camping on Mt Hood; playing or coaching with Unified Sports of Forest Grove; mentoring recent high school graduates transitioning to adulthood, and more. Though supported by qualified faculty and staff, students have extensive opportunities to be with and learn from members of the disability community. Instructor's consent required. Counts toward core requirement: Civic Engagement. 4 credits.

DS-211 Abnormal Psychology
Students critically explore major categories of disorders, with special emphasis on dissociative identity disorder, depression, schizophrenia, and borderline personality. Questions are raised about the use of psychiatric drugs, and attention is paid to the history of insanity. This course includes both textbook and original readings. Also listed as PSY 211. Prerequisite: PSY-150 with a minimum grade of C. 4 credits.

DS-275 Internship
See department for details. Internship contract required. 1-4 credits.

DS-307 Ethics, Medicine & Health Care
A study of ethical issues that arise in the health care professions. After working through the processes of moral reasoning and learning about some of the major moral theories this course will focus on major topics in health care today. Typically this course deals with such issues as abortion, physician assisted suicide, genetic manipulation and cloning, and comparative health delivery systems. Students will be able to do some independent research on a topic of their choice. Also listed as PHIL 307. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above (30 or more completed credits). 4 credits.

DS-315 Adapted Physical Activity
Introduction to adapted, corrective, and developmental physical activities. Emphasis is placed on assessment, laws & legislation, and teaching methods of physical activities for the exceptional student. Also listed as EXMB 315. Prerequisite: EXMB-105, and EXIP 365 with a minimum grade of C- or DS 200 with a minimum grade of C-. 2 credits.

DS-325 Constitutional Law
An introduction to the judicial process, legal reasoning and interpretation of the Constitution through analysis of court cases. Subjects include federalism, property, race, gender, and privacy. Also listed as POLS 325. Biennially. 4 credits.

DS-395 Independent Study
See department for details. Independent study contract required. 1-18 credits.

DS-475 Internship
See department for details. Internship contract required. Credit varies.

DS-495 Independent Study
See department for details. Independent study contract required. Credit varies.