DISABILITY STUDIES (DSST)

DSST 205. PSYCHOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES ON DISABILITY. 5 Credits.
Satisfies: a BACR for social sciences.
Students explore the lived social and psychological experience of
disabled individuals from a disability studies perspective that “disability”
is a socially construct rather than an individual-deficiency. Students
examine strengths and limitations of traditional psychology and disability
studies bases scholarship and approaches. They engage in psychological
enquiry into how disabled people can forge positive identities and how
disabled people collectively build disability culture and community.

DSST 215. BIOSOCIAL ASPECTS OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT. 5 Credits.
This course focuses on the biosocial domain and covers biological
systems, development and functioning and the social contextual
meanings of biological traits and conditions, (e.g. neurological, hereditary,
sexual, immune, sensory) and characteristics and impairments (e.g.
physical traits and characteristics, mental and cognitive functioning).
Implications of impairment, disability and Disability are analyzed and
compared to other characteristics and traits that are used to marginalize
people.

DSST 225. DISABILITY HISTORY IN THE UNITED STATES. 5 Credits.
Satisfies: a BACR for social sciences.
Students examines patterns of understanding and responding to human
difference in American history, emphasizing disability as a label and lived
experience. The course provides a historical context for understanding
and assessing contemporary issues facing disabled people. Additionally,
it familiarizes students with methods for the retrieval and engages them
critical examination of primary historical source material that influence
how history is interpreted and understood.

DSST 310. DISABILITY, CULTURE AND SOCIETY. 5 Credits.
Notes: may be stacked with DSST 501.
Satisfies: a university graduation requirement—diversity.
Disability and persons with disabilities have been with us throughout
the history of humankind. This course familiarizes students to disability
as a component of the diverse tapestry of society. Historical disability
conceptualizations and issues are discussed. Contemporary and
emerging explanations of disability in contemporary society and
Disability Culture are explored.

DSST 340. DOING DISABILITY STUDIES. 5 Credits.
Pre-requisites: DSST 310 or permission of instructor.
In this course, students apply Disability Studies principles to their
occupations, careers, and everyday lives. Students apply previous
learning about diversity, disability, and people with disabilities to
employment and community contexts. They analyze professional,
organizational, and community practices and policies to assess
accessibility and inclusion of people with disabilities and other diverse
groups as leaders, colleagues, consumers and clients.

DSST 360. RESEARCH METHODS IN DISABILITY STUDIES. 5 Credits.
Pre-requisites: MTHD 104 or equivalent.
This course teaches social research methods used in positivist and
constructivist research. Students interpret research and assess uses,
benefits, drawbacks and ethics of respective social research approaches.
Students evaluate how research has been used to marginalize disabled
people and other minority groups juxtaposed with emancipatory
research. They learn processes to formulate concrete research questions
and plans, review literature, collect and analyze data, and disseminate
results.

DSST 410. DISABILITY AS DIVERSITY. 5 Credits.
Cross-listed: WMST 418.
Notes: may be stacked with DSST 510.
Pre-requisites: DSST 310 or permission from DSST program chair.
Disability shapes, and is shaped by, multiple social and cultural identities
as well as lived experiences. This course teaches students to recognize,
analyze, and comprehend disability, and disabled persons, as part of
the rich tapestry of human experience; including disability intersections
with other diverse identities and groups in society. Working through
interdisciplinary scholarship, cultural artifacts, and first-person accounts,
students will learn how disability compliments and also complicates
existing identity categories and notions of diversity.

DSST 420. HUMAN DIVERSITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS. 5 Credits.
Notes: may be stacked with DSST 520.
Pre-requisites: successful completion of a university diversity course or
permission of the instructor.
Satisfies: a university graduation requirement—global studies.
This course explores how laws and policies affect diverse people and
groups; majority and minority, domestically and globally. It goes beyond
laws and policies affecting discrete groups based on their characteristics
by addressing intersectionalities, analyzing beliefs and practices that
transcend specific times, identities, and locations. It looks at how
societies and contexts frame people's individual characteristics and traits
and develop policies and practices.

DSST 430. DISABILITY, CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES FROM THE LIBERAL
ARTS AND HUMANITIES. 5 Credits.
Notes: may be stacked with DSST 530.
Pre-requisites: DSST 310 or permission of instructor.
Representations of disabled people in literature, art, film, music and
theatre reflect and shape what disability means and what it means to be
disabled. In addition to exploring mainstream representations, we will
examine works that demonstrate artistic, scholarly and concrete ways of
doing disability differently.

DSST 445. DISABILITY AND ETHICS. 5 Credits.
Pre-requisites: DSST 310 or instructor permission.
Based on Disability Studies scholarship, this course teaches students
about disability related moral and ethical issues. It explores moral
beliefs and ethical standards pertaining to matters such as quality of life,
humaness, and end of life decisions. Students will explore the material
consequences of these historical and contemporary matters as they work
through real life situations in community, organizational, professional,
and everyday settings.

DSST 490. SENIOR CAPSTONE PROJECT IN UNIVERSAL ACCESS. 5
Credits.
Notes: may be stacked with DSST 590.
Pre-requisites: DSST 410 or permission of the instructor.
Satisfies: a university graduation requirement—senior capstone.
This course provides students the opportunity to develop a community-
based, service-learning project with colleagues from multiple academic
disciplines. Under the direction of the instructor, students participate
in a project that addresses universal access in the context of a diverse
society. Weekly lectures integrate conceptual and practical learning
relative to universal access for diverse populations including those
with disabilities.
DSST 496. EXPERIMENTAL COURSE. 1-5 Credits.

DSST 497. WORKSHOP, SHORT COURSE, CONFERENCE, SEMINAR. 1-5 Credits.

Prerequisites: DSST 310 or instructor permission.

This course allows the DSST program to provide students for-credit opportunities for engaging in seminars and short courses focusing on contemporary issues that are in line with the core values of the DSST program of universal access, intersectionality and critical diversity. Credits options are offered for students who engage in additional scholarly activity in addition to the sessions.

DSST 499. DIRECTED STUDY. 1-15 Credits.

Prerequisites: permission of the instructor, department chair and college dean.

Independent study under faculty direction, adapted to individual needs of the students.

DSST 501. DISABILITY, CULTURE AND SOCIETY. 5 Credits.

Prerequisites: baccalaureate degree or instructor permission.

Disability and persons with disabilities have been with us throughout the history of humankind. This course has been developed to familiarize students to disability as a component of the diverse tapestry of society. Historical disability conceptualizations and issues will be discussed. Contemporary and emerging explanations of disability in contemporary society and Disability Culture will be explored.

DSST 510. DISABILITY AS DIVERSITY. 5 Credits.

Notes: may be stacked with DSST 410.

Prerequisites: baccalaureate degree or instructor permission.

Disability shapes, and is shaped by, multiple social and cultural identities as well as lived experiences. This course teaches students to recognize, analyze, and comprehend disability, and disabled persons, as part of the rich tapestry of human experience; including disability intersections with other diverse identities and groups in society. Working through interdisciplinary scholarship, cultural artifacts, and first-person accounts, students will learn how disability compliments and also complicates existing identity categories and notions of diversity.

DSST 520. HUMAN DIVERSITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS. 5 Credits.

Notes: may be stacked with DSST 420.

Prerequisites: bachelor’s degree or permission of the instructor.

In this course, students explore how laws and policies are formulated and applied across diversities; minority and majority, advantaged and disadvantaged. We investigate the explicit and implicit effects of laws and policies and how they enhance and inhibit human rights for people based on characteristics such as gender and gender identity, race and ethnicity, disability, religion, and economic status. Beginning with a foundation in U.S. laws and policies, students also explore international human diversity and human rights. We assess historical and contemporary approaches to human rights including mechanisms employed by leaders such as the founding leaders of the U.S., Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, Paul Kagame of Rwanda, and Desmond Tutu and Nelson Mandela of South Africa, and apply them to contemporary issues and events.

DSST 530. DISABILITY: CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES FROM THE LIBERAL ARTS AND HUMANITIES. 5 Credits.

Notes: may be stacked with DSST 430.

Prerequisites: bachelor’s degree or permission or instructor.

This course addresses Disability Studies as it is unfolded within and across the humanities and liberal arts. Over the last generation, disability studies scholars have analyzed representations of people with disabilities as they appear in literature, myth, art, film, photography, music and theatre. These fields reflect and shape the meaning and reality of disability. Poetic and other artistic modes of discourse can deepen our understanding of the lived experience of disability.

DSST 590. INTERDISCIPLINARY PROJECT IN UNIVERSAL ACCESS. 5 Credits.

Notes: may be stacked with DSST 490.

Prerequisites: DSST 510 or permission.

This course applies classroom learning to community settings. Students in this course will participate in community engaged service learning with colleagues from multiple academic disciplines. Under the direction of the instructor and working with a community mentors, students will participate in projects that enrich the community by enhancing universal access and full participation in society by diverse groups.

DSST 596. EXPERIMENTAL COURSE. 1-6 Credits.

DSST 599. IND STUDY. 1-5 Credits.

Independent Study.