Disability Studies (Graduate Certificate)

You can become a knowledgeable, flexible professional, change agent, researcher, educator and advocate by critically addressing diverse intersectional experiences, quality of life and justice issues, field-based applications, and research for ongoing learning and writing.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: Certificate Disability Studies (Certificate)
The graduate certificate program in disability studies focuses on the creation of new knowledge and consequent practical implications in the area of disability. It coordinates courses into an individualized systemic plan of study that trains students to conduct disability research.

Students examine disability from diverse perspectives, including disability law and justice, cultural politics of disability, family perspectives, as well as research methods in disability studies. The emphasis for students is on examining and creating new theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches at different levels of analysis while analyzing topics of critical importance locally and globally.

At a Glance

- College/School: The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Location: Tempe

Degree Requirements

15 credit hours
Required Core (3 credit hours)
JUS 530 Social Policy, Critical Advocacy and Disability (3) or
JUS 565 Critical and Comparative Issues in Disability (3)

Electives (12 credit hours)

Additional Curriculum Information
Students should see the academic unit for the pre-approved list of elective coursework. Other coursework may be used with approval of the academic unit.

Admission Requirements
Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in areas such as social sciences, education, social work, law, health care and health care policy or any related field from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

Applicants are required to submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

International students who need an F1 or J1 visa first need to apply to and be accepted into a graduate degree program prior to being considered for the certificate program. International students residing in the USA on other types of visas must adhere to all Graduate College policies and procedures regarding admission to be considered for admission to this certificate program.

Application Deadlines

Fall

Spring
Program Learning Outcomes

Program learning outcomes identify what a student will learn or be able to do upon completion of their program. This program has the following program outcomes:

- Critically examine and apply appropriate methodological approaches to the study of disability culture locally and globally.
- Explain key theoretical perspectives contributing to the development of disability studies.

Career Opportunities

A disability studies certificate can benefit individuals working within a variety of fields such as health care, human services, education, rehabilitation sciences and social work. Additionally, individuals with a disability certificate can work within a number of diverse settings, including:

- assisted living centers
- community and family support agencies
- gerontology institutes
- independent living centers
- parent education, consulting and information centers
- protection and advocacy, nonprofit agencies
- research centers and institutes
- self-advocacy associations
- state and local disabilities agencies
- university or college offices for students, with disabilities and transition centers

Contact Information

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