

# Disability Studies, Certificate

LADISCERT

Challenge your views of disability through the voices of diverse, disabled cultures. Study social constructions of disability through ableist media portrayals, stereotypes, institutional abuses and exclusionary school policies by examining the lived experiences and perspectives of people with disabilities, their families and communities.

## Description

As a vibrant and diverse area of academic study, disability studies utilizes a cross-disability, intersectional and interdisciplinary approach that views disability as a social construct and people with disabilities as a minority group. In the program in disability studies, students draw upon diverse disciplines such as history, sociology, law, policy studies, economics, anthropology, geography, philosophy, theology, gender studies, media studies, architecture and the arts in order to understand the social, cultural and political situation of disabled cultures, or people with disabilities.

Students are critically challenged to reject simplistic definitions of disability as a restrictive, functional impairment that requires fixing or curing. Rather, students learn to identify disability as a construct that finds its meaning within cultural contexts, is central to individual and social identity, and is crucial to changing political processes and public attitudes.

This program prioritizes development of theoretical, methodological, educational and advocacy models that redefine legal, physical, policy and attitudinal barriers that exclude disabled communities from society.

## At a glance

- **College/School:** [The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences](#)
- **Location:** [Tempe](#)

# Program requirements

[2024 - 2025 Certificate Map](#)

[Certificate Map \(Archives\)](#)

Students must complete 15 credit hours with at least 12 hours completed at the upper-division level. A minimum grade of "C" (2.00 on a 4.00 scale) is required for a course to count toward the certificate. Students should contact the School of Social Transformation advising center for more information.

## Required Courses -- 6 credit hours

[JUS 235: Disability, Justice and Advocacy \(CIVI OR C\)](#) (3)

[JUS 437: The Social Construction of Disability and Justice](#) (3)

## Elective Courses -- 9 credit hours

[AFR 317: Genes, Race and Society \(SOBE OR SB & H & C\)](#) (3)

[AFR 375: Race, Gender and Sport \(SOBE OR SB & C\)](#) (3)

[APA 330: Asian Pacific American Genders and Sexualities \(SOBE OR \(L or SB\) & C\)](#) (3)

[APA 350: Inequality and Diversity in Education \(CIVI OR L & C\)](#) (3)

[APA 355: Asian American Psychology \(SOBE OR SB & C\)](#) (3)

[CRD 302: Inclusive Community Development \(SOBE OR SB & C\)](#) (3)

[DST 322: Social and Cultural Implications of the Many Forms of Disability](#) (3)

[DST 458: Disability and Communication Advocacy](#) (3)

[EDS 301: Sustainable Community Design and Practices \(SUST OR HU\)](#) (3)

[ENG 484: Internship](#) (1-12)

[GER 494: Posthumanism and the Ends of Man](#) (3)

[JUS 303: Justice Theory \(CIVI OR L\)](#) (3)

[JUS 305: Principles of Justice Studies \(SB\)](#) (3)

[JUS 365: Inequality and Diversity in Education \(CIVI OR L & C\)](#) (3)

[JUS 370: Cultural Diversity and Justice \(CIVI OR \(L or HU\) & C\)](#) (3)

[JUS 375: Justice and the Mass Media \(SOBE OR SB\)](#) (3)

[JUS 432: Racial Justice \(CIVI OR L\)](#) (3)

[JUS 438: Human Differences: Dilemmas of Justice \(CIVI OR \(L or HU\) & C\)](#) (3)

[JUS 440: Prisons, Power and the Punishments of the Past](#) (3)

[JUS 469: Political Deviance and the Law \(\(L or SB\) & C\)](#) (3)

[MHL 447: Music and Healing \(HUAD OR HU & H & G\)](#) (3)

[MUE 441: Psychology of Music](#) (3)

[PRM 453: Inclusive Community Sport](#) (3)

[RTH 364: Foundations in Recreational Therapy \(SOBE OR SB\)](#) (3)

[RTH 440: Advocacy in Therapeutic Recreation \(GCSI OR G\)](#) (3)

[RTH 450: Therapeutic Recreation and Community Health](#) (3)

[RTH 455: Recreational Therapy and Play with Children, Youth and Families](#) (3)

[SHS 367: Language Science \(SOBE OR SB\)](#) (3)

[WST 313: Women and Sexuality \(SOBE OR SB & C\)](#) (3)

[WST 371: Sex and the City: Women, Sexuality, and Popular Culture \(HU & C\)](#) (3)

[WST 380: Race, Gender, and Class \(SOBE OR SB & C\)](#) (3)

[WST 477: Gender and Violence \(SB & C\)](#) (3)

Prerequisite courses may be needed in order to complete the requirements of this certificate.

## **Enrollment requirements**

Students enrolled in the BA or minor in disability studies offered by the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences are not prohibited from adding this certificate.

A student pursuing an undergraduate certificate must be enrolled as a degree-seeking student at ASU. Undergraduate certificates are not awarded prior to the award of an undergraduate degree. A student already holding an undergraduate degree may pursue an undergraduate certificate as a nondegree-seeking graduate student.

## **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:

- Employ and critically assess core theories, models and perspectives that have contributed to the development of disability studies.
- Understand and identify representations of disability as historically specific and culturally contingent.
- Apply disability studies perspectives in the construction of social policy, engagement, and advocacy.

## **Career opportunities**

Graduates who have combined the certificate in disability studies with their major program of study may become more marketable to employers. They often decide to pursue employment in law, education, public service, and human welfare and social work.

Advanced degrees or certifications may be required for academic or clinical positions.

## **Contact information**

[School of Social Transformation](#) | NVS1 310AA

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