

Interdisciplinary Disability Studies Graduate Course Offerings - Summer 2016

DIS 500 - Contemporary Disability Theory

Critically examines historical and contemporary context of disability and analyzes the emergence of disability as a contemporary category of human diversity. Identification and analysis of the political, social, economic, intellectual, and technological trends relevant to disability rights.

Class Number: 80057

Dates: May 16, 2016 - June 24, 2016

Instructor: Stephen F. Gilson, Ph.D.

Location: Online

DIS 550 - Research Seminar in Disability Studies

Provides the opportunity to apply knowledge and skill of design and methods to inquiry related to disability, diversity and universal principles. Examination of current literature and scholarship and formulation of research questions and methods to address disability, diversity and related inquiry.

Class Number: 80036

Dates: June 27, 2016 - August 5, 2016

Instructor: Elizabeth DePoy, Ph.D.

Location: Online

Register for DIS 500 or DIS 550 at Summer University 2016 Ways to Register: <https://umaine.edu/summeruniversity/ways-to-register/>



What this certificate can do for you:

Equip you with the credential to expand your opportunities in disability-related employment and/or advanced graduate study;

Introduce you to the diversity of professionals, scholars and community members who are concerned with disability and work and study in this growing interdisciplinary field;

Enhance your policy analysis and advocacy knowledge and skill so that you may influence disability policy at local, state, federal, and international levels;

Introduce you to the world of disability research so that you can become a critical reader and user of research knowledge or advance your own career in disability-related research; and

Engage you in a comprehensive exploration of disability-related technology and innovation.

DIS 500 and DIS 550 are two of four courses needed for the [University of Maine Graduate Certificate in Interdisciplinary Disability Studies](#). The certificate program provides the opportunity for studying disability theory, research, and policy relevant to the lives of individuals and groups with disabilities. Located within the larger discourse of human diversity, disability is analyzed as an economic, social, cultural, political, and individual phenomenon.

More information about this certificate program is online: <http://ccids.umaine.edu/interedu/graduate-certificate/> or you may contact Stephen Gilson, Ph.D., Coordinator and Professor of Interdisciplinary Disability Studies and Professor of Social Work; 207.581.1263 (v) or stephen.f.gilson@maine.edu

What types of students have studied with us?

Social workers interested in disability policy advocacy;

Counseling professionals initiating practices for disabled individuals and their families;

Engineers interested in crafting adaptive sporting equipment;

Artists interested in designing aesthetically pleasing motifs for mobility devices;

Teachers interested in full inclusion of students with disabilities in public education;

Business professionals entering the disability and aging industries;

Web designers advancing universal web access; and

Dancers studying ways to teach mobility-impaired children and adults to dance.

What former students have said about the Graduate Certificate in Interdisciplinary Disability Studies:

“Not only are these classes fascinating and thought provoking, but I now have a credential which makes me competitive in my field of speech pathology.”

“I thought that online learning, while convenient, would be dry. These classes are organized so that I can interact with students and faculty on my own time. I have met life-long friends and colleagues while having fun and learning a great deal.”

“Everyone should have to take these classes. They teach not only about disability but about humanity. I am now a more thoughtful and informed social worker.”

“Not only have I learned about technology, but I now use it in my classes to assure that all kids have access to learning.”

“As an engineer, I was primarily concerned that anything I built worked. After these classes, I now think not only about how an object functions but consider its appearance so that people will not put it on a shelf and fail to benefit from something that works well but they refuse to use because of stigma.”



Graduate Certificate in Interdisciplinary Disability Studies

<http://ccids.umaine.edu/interedu/graduate-certificate/>

The certificate program, open to individuals who have obtained a baccalaureate degree, is a progressive 12-credit graduate-level curriculum in which individuals from a variety of disciplines and professional backgrounds can study with students and professionals from other fields to acquire specialized knowledge in disability theory, policy and research. Ready to get started?

Visit the **University of Maine Graduate School** <https://umaine.edu/graduate/apply/>

Interdisciplinary Disability Studies Minor <http://ccids.umaine.edu/interedu/ids/minor/>

The 24-credit Minor curriculum provides students a means to explore disability within the larger context of diversity.

The University of Maine does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, including transgender status and gender expression, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status in employment, education, and all other programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies: Director, Office of Equal Opportunity, 101 North Stevens Hall, 581.1226, eoinfo@umit.maine.edu.