Graduate Certificate: Disability Studies

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (http://education.temple.edu)

About the Certificate

Disability Studies offers a course of study that explores disability from historical, cultural, and sociopolitical perspectives. Focus is placed on disability within a social and political context, challenging the notion that the statuses and roles of individuals with disability result from physical or psychological aspects of disability. Scholars in the field of Disability Studies recognize the necessity of focusing their work on issues of disability within a traditional discipline, but also require a familiarity with work on disability in other disciplines to enrich their own understandings. It is for this philosophical reason that the graduate certificate in Disability Studies is interdisciplinary and jointly sponsored by the Institute on Disabilities and the College of Education.

The graduate certificate in Disability Studies draws on resources in a broad array of disciplines from the liberal arts and social sciences to the allied health professions. It develops a more accurate understanding and appreciation of people with disabilities and the evolution of their civil rights movement. The graduate certificate can be earned in conjunction with a wide variety of disciplines. Disability Studies provides students with an opportunity to reflect critically on practices and approaches that may be taken for granted in their home disciplines. Particular strengths include the social history of disability and ableism, disability and health, ecological aspects of disablement, universal design, disability social policy, and constituency-oriented research on disability rights and culture.

Time Limit for Certificate Completion: 2 years

Campus Location: Main and Online

Full-Time/Part-Time Status: The graduate certificate can be completed on a part-time basis.

Non-Matriculated Student Policy: Non-matriculated students may take up to 9 credits of coursework before applying to the graduate certificate program.

Financing Opportunities: Students currently enrolled in a terminal degree program at Temple University should contact the Institute on Disabilities to inquire about graduate assistantship opportunities.

Admission Requirements and Deadlines

Application Deadline:
Applications are reviewed year-round for the free-standing graduate certificate program.

Students already enrolled in a Temple University graduate degree program APPLY ONLINE through an internal application.

Prospective students not currently enrolled in a Temple University graduate degree program APPLY ONLINE to this certificate program.

Letters of Reference:
Number Required: 2

From Whom: Letters of recommendation should be obtained from individuals in a position to evaluate the applicant’s academic ability and accomplishments.

Bachelor’s Degree in Discipline/Related Discipline: While all applicants must present credentials that are the equivalent of the appropriate baccalaureate degree at Temple University, the graduate certificate in Disability Studies can be approached from any number of disciplines.

Statement of Goals: One to two pages should indicate your interests, plans, and objectives within the field of Disability Studies.

Certificate Requirements

Number of Didactic Credits Required to Complete the Certificate: 12

Required Courses:

Core Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DSST 5401</td>
<td>Disability Rights and Culture</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DSST 9489</td>
<td>Field Work in Disability Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Electives

Select two of the following: 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DSST 5402</td>
<td>Action Modes of Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DSST 5403</td>
<td>Disability and Social Policy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DSST 5405  Disability Studies in the Humanities

Total Credit Hours  12

Contacts

Certificate Program Web Address:
http://disabilities.temple.edu/programs/ds/

Department Information:
Institute on Disabilities at the College of Education
Howard Gittis Student Center, Room 411S
1755 N. 13th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19122-6011
iod@temple.edu
Voice: 215-204-1356
TTY: 1-215-204-1805

Submission Address for Materials for Applicants Currently Enrolled in a Temple University Graduate Program:
https://edtemple.tk20.com/campustoolshighered/admissions1.do

Submission Address for Materials for Applicants Not Currently Enrolled in a Temple University Graduate Program:
http://apply.temple.edu/coe

Courses

DSST 5401. Disability Rights and Culture. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.
This course provides a socio-historical survey of the political, economic, social and cultural relations between disabled and non-disabled society in America. Topics such as the social construction of disability and the changing experiences of persons with disabilities are discussed in the context of other civil rights movements and the broader evolution of social policy.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

DSST 5402. Action Modes of Research. 3 Credit Hours.
This course explores the foundations of collaborative and action research. There will be a strong focus on the sets of beliefs that lead to and underlay action research, and how these beliefs are different from traditional paradigms. Students will also work on the practical means by which those affected by research are included in its design. Readings and discussion will focus particularly on disabilities, but will also include considerations of gender, race, class and sexual orientation.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

DSST 5403. Disability and Social Policy. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.
This course examines public policy in the U.S.; particularly the influence of recent Congressional actions and judicial decisions in the areas of education, health care, human development, rehabilitation and employment of individuals with disabilities. Will examine the origins, goals and target populations for these policies and the extent to which policies are consistent with each other, and will assess the effectiveness of policies and the impact they have on people's real lives, including people with disabilities, family members and professionals. Note: Cross-listed as SOC ADMIN 0654.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
DSST 5404. Health and Wellness for Persons with Disabilities. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is designed to introduce students to the meaning of health and wellness for individuals with disabilities. A biopsychosocial model will be used to examine the various dimensions of health. Students will examine the role(s) that theoretical understandings of health behaviors, societal values and systems, and demographic factors have in facilitating or inhibiting wellness. The course will also explore the supports people with disabilities may require in order to achieve and maintain health and wellness. Note: Cross-listed as THER REC 0521.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

DSST 5405. Disability Studies in the Humanities. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.
Interest in Disability Studies is exploding in the humanities disciplines. The focus and content of this course will depend upon the interests of faculty and graduate students. Possibilities include: Health and Disability in American History; Disability and Performance Studies; Disability in American Literature; Imaging Bodies World Film’ Cross-Cultural Disability Studies.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

DSST 5501. Introduction to Disability Studies. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.
Only available to students who are research assistants and externs of the Institute on Disabilities. Special authorization required.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

DSST 9489. Field Work in Disability Studies. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.
This course provides experiential learning in the experiences of persons with disabilities. Students are assigned to work with and be mentored by persons with disabilities and their families. Sites will be selected in collaboration with each student's development.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

**Repeatability:** This course may be repeated for additional credit.