

What Does Disability Studies Bring to the AUCD Network?

Overview

- The field of disability studies – with its interest in cultural meanings of disability, embodied knowledge, political identity, and social justice -- has sometimes been situated in opposition to other disciplines that focus on disability, such as those arising from the medical and applied social sciences, where historically the emphasis has been on curing or fixing disability.
- Within the AUCD network there are a variety of disability studies programs. This poster includes a brief overview of four diverse programs, and another one in development, in regard to their structure, location within the university, and focus.
- Because AUCD leadership and trainee programs typically target emerging and early career professionals in the medical and social services fields, the presence of disability studies programs within AUCD affiliated institutions creates an important intersection for engaging diverse perspectives on disability.
- We pose questions about the challenges and possibilities related to the inter- and multi-disciplinary work of disability studies within the AUCD network and connections to the larger disability studies field.

University of Wyoming

- Type of Program / Date Founded
 - Undergraduate Minor / 2007
- Department and College Location
 - College of Health Sciences
- Focus, Strengths, or Emphasis
 - Interdisciplinary Disability Studies & Cultural Theory
 - Enrolls 50+ students from Health Sciences, Education, Psychology, Arts & Sciences
 - Strong emphasis on disability perspectives, activism, advocacy, history, education, representation and arts
- Faculty Affiliation / Area of Expertise
 - English, Gender Studies, Disability History & Culture, Critical Race Theory, Education, Assistive Technology
- Overview of Required or Core Courses
 - Introduction to Disability Studies; Disability Studies Theory & Practice; Disability Studies Practicum
 - DS Electives: Gender & Disability, Global Disability Studies, Diverse Minds, ASL, Deaf Studies, Assistive Technology.

University of Hawaii

- Type of Program / Date Founded
 - Graduate Certificate / 2004
- Department and College Location
 - Center on Disability Studies, College of Education
- Focus, Strengths, or Emphasis
 - Interdisciplinary Disability and Diversity
 - Enroll students from social work, education, humanities, social sciences, nursing, library sciences and computer sciences
 - Offers undergraduate elective courses as well as graduate certificate courses
- Faculty Affiliation / Area of Expertise
 - Special Education, Educational Technology, Disability Studies, History
- Overview of Required or Core Courses
 - Introduction to Disability and Diversity Studies; Multicultural issues; Team Development; Advanced Topics in Disability and Diversity

University of Illinois - Chicago

- Type of Program / Date Founded
 - PhD in Disability Studies (1998); MS in Disability & Human Development (1998); BS in Disability & Human Development (from 2016)
- Department and College location
 - College of Applied Health Science
- Focus, Strengths, or Emphasis
 - Social and Applied Health Sciences, Humanities
 - Enrolls (120 Graduate, 100 Undergraduate Minor, additional 800+ taking classes).
 - Emphasis on interdisciplinary degrees and programs with a strong community engagement
- Faculty Affiliation / Area of Expertise
 - Sociology, Psychology, Public Health, Theatre & Performance, Social Work, History, English, Technology, Service Provision & Advocacy, Occupational Therapy,
- Overview of Required or Core Courses
 - Theories & Analysis in Disability Studies; Disability Policy; Interdisciplinary Research; Disability Culture

Questions for Discussion

- How have different programs implemented disability studies' interdisciplinary approach to the study of disability, disabled people, and disability knowledges?
- How have different programs brought people together from different disciplinary or interdisciplinary programs to build a disability studies program?
- What are some of the barriers faced when implementing an interdisciplinary curriculum and/or building an interdisciplinary program?
- What does and can disability studies interdisciplinarity bring to the AUCD network?
- How might programs within the AUCD network collaborate to support teaching, scholarship, and leadership in disability studies?

University of Delaware

- Type of Program / Date Founded
 - Undergraduate Minor / 1997
- Department / College Location
 - College of Education & Human Development
- Focus, Strengths, or Emphasis
 - Social Sciences
 - Enrolls 400+ students from Health Sciences, Arts & Sciences, and own college
 - Expanding to include courses in Arts & Humanities
- Faculty Affiliation / Area of Expertise
 - Special Education, Human Services, Psychology, Speech/Language, English
- Overview of Required or Core Courses
 - Introduction to Exceptional Children; Families & Developmental Disabilities; Senior Seminar in Disability Studies; Electives in Human Development, Social Systems, Service Delivery

Interdisciplinarity

“Intersectional interdisciplinarity entails more than rendering disciplinary bounds permeable -- though this is important: it also means refusing disciplinary divides that falsely atomize struggles, histories, and knowledges (Maldonado-Torres 2012)” (May 247).

Virginia Commonwealth University

[In Development]

- Type of Program: Undergraduate Certificate / Anticipate Start Date 2017
- Department and College Location: (To be determined)
- Focus, Strengths, or Emphasis: Interdisciplinary program geared to undergraduates whose majors are in disciplines that do not have a traditional disability focus
- Faculty Affiliation / Area of Expertise: (To be determined)
- Overview of Required or Core Courses: (1) Disability History and Culture (2) Disability, Diversity, & Human Rights (3) Capstone Seminar in Disability Studies

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