The purpose of the Interdisciplinary Disability Studies Certificate is to provide students at the University of Georgia with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to become professionals and leaders who are capable of implementing change in values, policy, and practice across the nation. These professionals will promote the true inclusion of all individuals with disabilities as fully participating members of our communities and nation, with all the rights accorded to every citizen. Disability Studies examines the concept of disability as a social, cultural, and political phenomenon. In contrast to medical, clinical, or therapeutic perspectives on disability, Disability Studies focuses on how disability is defined and represented in society and on the social, cultural and political barriers that exist within society.

As a field of study, Disability Studies is interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary. Potential students include undergraduate or graduate students from any school or college within UGA and come from virtually every discipline. Our Disability Studies Certificate students, also considered IHDD Trainees, are linked into a national network of Interdisciplinary Trainees through IHDD’s affiliation with The Association of University Centers on Disability (AUCD). This network provides students with an opportunity to connect with the other 4,000 trainees nationally as well as to participate in events, access resources, develop their leadership skills and socially network to build their future careers.

**Educational Objectives**

- Increase interest in understanding, supporting, and advocating for people with disabilities in the future.
- Identify interactions between historical events and customs and political, social, and economic issues.
- Understand local, national, and global policy to display awareness of a disability as a diversity and civil rights issue.
- Explain the ways in which a person’s perceived ability by others may affect his or her full participation in society.
- Illustrate interdisciplinary knowledge of how disability is socially constructed and represented.
- Demonstrate increased comfort in interacting with people with disabilities and application of respectful interaction and language.
Certificate Requirements

Undergraduate Students
15 Credit Hours

Graduate Students
18 Credit Hours

REQUIRED

IHDD 2001 — Introduction to Disabilities | Fall, Spring Semester | TR 2:00 - 3:15
*Meets UGA's Social Science Core Requirement
IHDD 6001 — Introduction to Disabilities (Graduate) | Fall Semester | TBD
IHDD 4050/6050 — Critical Issues in Disability Studies | Spring Semester | TR 3:30 - 4:45

UNDERGRADUATE ELECTIVES

IHDD 3010 — Directed Study | All Semesters
IHDD 2050(S) — Principles of Person Centered Practices | For Destination Dawgs peer mentors
Fall, Spring | Online
IHDD 4002(S) — Disability Issues in Adulthood
Fall (alternate) | TR 3:30 - 4:45
IHDD 4005(S) - Disability Issues in Childhood & Adolescence
Fall (alternate) | TR 3:30 - 4:45
IHDD 5000(S) — Disability in the Archives
IHDD 5720(S) - Advocacy Practices for Social Change
Fall (alternate) | TR 3:30 - 4:45

Theses, dissertations, or capstone projects with a disability focus may be counted towards the required credit hours.

GRADUATE ELECTIVES

IHDD 7010 - Directed Study | All Semesters
IHDD 6002(S) - Disability Issues in Adulthood
Fall (alternate) | TR 3:30 - 4:45
IHDD 6005(S) - Disability Issues in Childhood & Adolescence
Fall (alternate) | TR 3:30 - 4:45
IHDD 7000(S) — Disability in the Archives | TBD
IHDD 5720(S) - Advocacy Practices for Social Change
Fall (alternate) | TR 3:30 - 4:45

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