

WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY  
COURSE SYLLABUS

**FACULTY MEMBER:**

TERM:

**COURSE TITLE:** Introduction to Disability Studies

**COURSE NUMBER:** SOC 474

**OFFICE HOURS/METHOD OF CONTACT:**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course encourages the student to explore disability issues with an emphasis on the more personal aspects of living with a disability, as well as social policy issues that influence the daily lives of the disabled, including: community inclusion, independence, assistive technology, transportation, employment, self-care, recreation, communication, and health care. Federal regulations, as well as the history of service provision for those with disabilities, will be reviewed. Students will learn about the

Learning Outcomes: The student will

- A-1. Identify and understand the chronology of disability in the United States
- A-2. Understand the rise of the eugenics movement in the United States
- A-3. Understand the differences between the moral, medical, and social model
- A-4. Recognize the importance of the disability rights movement

**GOAL B:** Understand appropriate methods for communicating with persons with disabilities and common stereotypes that create barriers.

Learning Outcomes: The student will

- B-1. Identify appropriate and inappropriate methods for communicating with those with disabilities who are verbal or non-verbal.
- B-2. Recognize communication techniques that preserve the respect and dignity of persons with disabilities.
- B-3. Understand the importance of communication in establishing trust and building relationships among those with disabilities.
- B-4. Recognize common stereotypes that adversely impact the goals of independence and equal treatment.
- B-5. Explore and identify disability stereotypes portrayed in media.

**GOAL C:** Explore and demonstrate an understanding of key federal disability laws.

Learning Outcomes: The student will

- C-1. Recognize the importance of the Americans with Disabilities Act
- C-2. Understand the importance of the 504 Act for Vocational Rehabilitation
- C-3. Explore and understand local Vocational Rehabilitation resources.
- C-4. Understand the importance of the IDEA Act for Education
- C-5. Recognize the importance of the Olmstead Act and its implications for persons with.

D-4. Understand the rise in Autism and Asperger's and its implication for current and future support services.

D-5. Explore and identify the impact for caregivers in caring for a family member with a disability. Identify the availability of respite and other support services.

**GOAL E:** Understand the concept of Universal Design

Learning Outcomes: The student will

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