

**The Ohio State University  
College of Arts and Sciences**

**Disability Studies Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization (GIS)**

---

The Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization (GIS) enables graduate students to supplement their major courses of study with focused work in Disability Studies (DS). Students enrolled in the GIS may take courses such as Introduction to Graduate Study in Disability Studies; Inclusive Education Research; Disability and Visual Culture; Trauma Theory; Disability Studies Theory; and more.

The GIS requires 14 to 16 credit hours of course work, with a minimum of three different courses. See below for specific requirements.

Students who wish to complete the GIS should consult with the Director of Disability Studies, Dr. Margaret Price (price.1225@osu.edu), to determine a course of study. Those considering the GIS should be aware that not all courses that fulfill GIS requirements are dedicated to a DS theoretical or methodological framework; rather, this specialization asks students to design a course of study that enables them to focus on their own interests and consider ways that a DS perspective can enrich their study of many different subjects. The two courses that take an explicitly DS approach are DSABLST 6700 (Introduction to Graduate Study in Disability Studies) and ENG 7891 (Seminar in Disability Studies Theory). GIS students are encouraged, but not required, to take both DSABLST 6700 and ENG 7891. As a special-topics course, ENG 7891 can be repeated for full credit when the topic shifts. Students may also enroll in internships (DSABLST 5191) and/or independent studies (DSABLST 5193) for GIS credit.

### **Requirements**

- At least 9 hours must be taken outside the student's home department. *Note:* For Education students, ESSPED courses count as inside the home department.
- Courses taken inside the student's home department must be at the 5000-level and above.
- No more than 2 courses may be taken from a single department.
- No more than 1 course may be an American Sign Language course.
- A maximum of 2 hours of DSABLST 5700: Disability Studies Workshop can be applied toward the GIS.
- A maximum of 2 hours of DSABLST 5191: Disability Studies Internship can be applied toward the GIS.
- The student must receive the grade of B (or better) or S in each course comprising the GIS.

### **Course Offerings**

#### **African American & African Studies**

7862 Mental Health in the Africana Community (3)

#### **Anthropology**

5630 Language and Culture in Education (3)

#### **Art Education**

5708 Disability and Visual Culture: Issues of Representation in Art and Popular Culture (3)  
7708 Universal Design for Learning: Disability Studies and Art Education (3)

#### **Comparative Studies**

8842 Seminar on Science & Medicine (3)  
8864 Critical Trauma Theory (3)

## **Disability Studies**

- 5191 Disability Studies Internship (1-3)
- 5193 Disability Studies Independent Study (1-3)
- 5700 Disability Studies Workshop (1-3)
- 6700 Introduction to Graduate Study in Disability Studies (1-3)
- 7700 Disability Studies Research Forum (1)

## **Education: Teaching and Learning**

- 5471 Clinical Practice in Treating Reading Disabilities (3)
- 5501 Inclusive Education (3)
- 5504 Inclusion: Philosophical, Social and Practical Issues: Secondary Education (3)
- 6551 Introduction to American Sign Language (3)
- 7501 Inclusive Education Research (3)

## **Educational Studies: Special Education**

- 5557 Language and Children with Disabilities (3)
- 5650 Introduction to Exceptional Children (3)
- 5678 The Parent/Professional Partnership (3)
- 5769 Delivering Effective Services to Enhance the Inclusion of Students with Special Needs (3)

## **English**

- 6401 Introduction to Medical Humanities and Social Sciences
- 7891 Seminar in Disability Studies Theory (repeatable) (3)

## **Health and Rehabilitation Science**

- 5100 Introduction to Assistive Technology (3)
- 5620 Aging, Accessibility, and Design (3)
- 5700 Multidisciplinary and Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Adolescent Mental Health (3)
- 5717.03 Interdisciplinary Perspective on Developmental Disorders (3)
- 5860 Augmentive and Alternative Communication for the Multidisciplinary Professional (3)
- 7718 Interdisciplinary Perspective on Autism Spectrum Disorder (3)

## **Health Services Management and Policy (Public Health)**

- 7640 Mental Health & Disability Policy (3)

## **Kinesiology: Physical Education**

- 5657 Sport and Disability (3)

## **Law**

- 7500 Disability Discrimination (4)
- 7509 Special Education Advocacy (Field Experience) (2-4)

## **Nursing**

- 7717 Interdisciplinary Perspective on Developmental Disabilities (3)
- 7718 Interdisciplinary Perspective on Autism Spectrum Disorders (3)

## **Psychology**

- 5681 Development and Psychopathology (3)
- 7717 Interdisciplinary Perspective on Developmental Disabilities (3)
- 7718 Interdisciplinary Perspective on Autism Spectrum Disorders (3)
- 7873 Attitudes & Persuasion (3)\*

\*Prerequisite: PSYC 6870 or permission of instructor.

### **Social Work**

- 5017 Social Work Practice in the Field of Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (2)
- 7717 Interdisciplinary Perspective on Developmental Disabilities (3)
- 7718 Interdisciplinary Perspective on Autism Spectrum Disorders (3)

### **Sociology**

- 5450 Sociology of Global Health & Illness (3)
- 5629 Health Disparities in Social Context (3)
- 7758 Population, Health, and Life Course (3)

### **Speech and Hearing Science**

- 5605 Multicultural Aspects of Communication (3)
- 5714 Introduction to Sign Language (3)
- 5860 Augmentive and Alternative Communication for the Multidisciplinary Professional (3)
- 7717 Interdisciplinary Perspective on Developmental Disabilities (3)

### **Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies**

- 5620 Topics in Feminist Studies (3)\*

\*Credit for this course must be individually approved the Disability Studies Program Director, since the topic does not always relate directly to Disability Studies.

## **GradForms Processing System**

Forms for the DS Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization are managed through GradForms, which can be found at [gradforms.osu.edu](http://gradforms.osu.edu). After logging into GradForms, click "Graduation and Examination Forms," and then scroll down to "Minors and Interdisciplinary Specializations."

Please be sure to consult with the DS Director before planning your course of study for the GIS. In addition, any time you make a change to your GIS in GradForms, please notify the Director via email. The Director usually receives notifications from GradForms for changes requiring approval, but in the event a notification does not go through, it is strongly suggested that you follow up with an email to ensure your forms and changes are approved in a timely manner.

General questions about Graduate School degree options and specializations may be directed to Tim Watson, director of Graduation Services, at [watson.11@osu.edu](mailto:watson.11@osu.edu). Questions regarding the GradForms system may be directed to Judith Dunham Borst at [dunham-borst.1@osu.edu](mailto:dunham-borst.1@osu.edu).

### **Grades required**

- Minimum B (or better) or S in each course that contributes to the GIS.

### **Approval required**

GIS course work must be approved by the Disability Studies Program Director.