

## DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

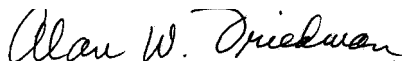
**PROPOSED CREATION OF AN INTERDISCIPLINARY DISABILITY STUDIES MINOR IN THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK IN THE *UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG, 2018-2020***

Dean Luis H. Zayas in the School of Social Work has filed with the Secretary of the Faculty Council the following proposal to create an Interdisciplinary Disability Studies minor in the School of Social Work chapter in the *Undergraduate Catalog, 2018-2020*. On April 14, 2017, the Dean and faculty in the School of Social Work approved the proposal. The Secretary has classified this proposal as legislation of general interest to one or more college or school.

The Committee on Undergraduate Degree Program Review recommended approval of the proposal on September 26, 2017, and forwarded it to the Office of the General Faculty. The Faculty Council has the authority to approve this legislation on behalf of the General Faculty. The authority to grant final approval on this legislation resides with the Provost on behalf of the President.

If no objection is filed with the Office of the General Faculty by the date specified below, the legislation will be held to have been approved by the Faculty Council. If an objection is filed within the prescribed period, the legislation will be presented to the Faculty Council at its next meeting. The objection, with reasons, must be signed by a member of the Faculty Council.

To be counted, a protest must be received in the Office of the General Faculty by October 19, 2017.



Alan W. Friedman, Secretary of the General Faculty and Faculty Council  
The University of Texas at Austin  
Arthur J. Thaman and Wilhelmina Doré Thaman Professor of English and Comparative Literature



College of Education	John Bartholomew, Ph.D., Department Chair Professor Department of Kinesiology & Health Education Email: jbart@austin.utexas.edu Phone: 512-232-6021 512-471-1273	To approve use of KIN 352k - Sport and Disability, KIN 360 - Programming for People with Disabilities, KIN 352k - Adapted Fitness and Recreation for the DS Minor  To reserve at least 5 seats in each course for the DS Minor	September 5, 2017 Approved
College of Liberal Arts (COLA)	Richard Flores , Ph.D. Associate Dean for Academic Affairs E-mail: flores@austin.utexas.edu Phone: (512) 471-9209	To approve use of ANT 302, ANT 349C, and E376M (i.e., the section taught by Dr. Julie Minich that is cross listed with MAS 374 and WGS 335) to be listed for the DS Minor  To reserve at least 5 seats in each course for the DS Minor	September 5, 2017 Approved
Moody College of Communication	Mark Bernstein, Ph.D. Associate Dean/Associate Professor Mark.bernstein@austin.utexas.edu Phone: 512-471-1553	To approve use of CSD 360K, CSD 308K to be listed for the DS Minor  To reserve at least 5 seats in each course for the DS Minor	August 29, 2017 Approved
School of Nursing	Carol Gascamp , Ph.D. Associate Professor of Clinical Nursing Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Programs Email: cgascamp@nursing.utexas.edu Phone: +1 512 471 7306 +1 512 232 4789	To approve the development and use of N347 "Disability over the Life Course" to be listed for the DS Minor  To reserve at least 5 seats in each course for the DS Minor	August 24, 2017 Approved

4. **OFFICIAL NAME:** Undergraduate Interdisciplinary Disability Studies Minor
5. **PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE:** Fall 2018
6. **FIELD OF STUDY, CIP CODE** (administrative unit awarding the certificate): **School of Social Work, 05.0210 Disability Studies**
7. **STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVE:** The objective of the Texas Center for Disability Studies (TCDS), under the administrative umbrella of the School of Social Work (SSW), is to establish a Disability Studies (DS) Minor at the University of Texas at Austin (UT). The TCDS is one of sixty-seven federally designated and

funded University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) across the country with the four core functions of Interdisciplinary Training, Community Outreach & Training, Research and Evaluation, and Information Dissemination.

The Undergraduate Minor in DS is an interdisciplinary course of study for UT students seeking a baccalaureate degree. Despite the universality of disability, the majority of Undergraduate majors at UT comprise a variety of disciplines with little or no focus on disability. When disability is addressed/studied, it is often via the only medical lens. The DS Minor expands the theoretical framework beyond the medical model, and examines disability from a variety of individual, environmental, and social constructs, and thereby, focuses on cross-disciplinary (versus discipline-specific) content. The design of the DS Minor reflects the belief that the global experience of disability is too complex to be rendered within one disciplinary field of study. The DS Minor combines disability related coursework from across the university, to include but not restricted to the School of Social Work, Nursing, Special Education, Music, Anthropology, Biology, English, Mexican American and Latina/o Studies, Communications Disorder, Kinesiology, and Sociology.

A survey conducted in 2001 indicated that there were seventeen UCEDDs, including several universities in the United States, offering a certificate, minor, or degree program, in Disability Studies. However, in the last decade, the emergence of DS in peer institutions across the United States has more than doubled, with a significant number of those institutions concentrated in the Northeast, West, and Midwest. The UT Austin could be one of just a handful of universities in the South to offer this minor; and only the second in Texas. Disability is a part of the human diversity and experience. As stated in the UT diversity plan “our strength as a university draws from our broad range of perspectives and experiences, and we support a free exchange of ideas alongside thoughtful consideration of our differences” (Retrieved from <http://diversity.utexas.edu/diversity-and-inclusion-action-plan/>). The establishment of the DS Minor further reinforces UT’s national leadership in diversity and community engagement.

Disability Studies addresses the critical analysis of the nature, meaning, and social context of disability that encourages a broad understanding of the phenomenon beyond the medical model and includes the experience of disability by both individual and society. In line with the beliefs of UT Austin’s president and provost that, diversity and excellence are mutually reinforcing (UDIAP, 2017), an interdisciplinary DS Minor provides students with an opportunity to study disability as part of human diversity and experience. These DS Minor booster’s students’ professional skills to expand their horizons and career options. The minor is multi-sectored in orientation and assumes that students may pursue careers in for-profit, nonprofit, and public venues. The DS Minor equips students with knowledge and skills about policies, services, and systems that support the full inclusion and participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of community life. Additionally, it provides a theoretical focus for and allows students who are interested in disability but not involved in a human service professional program, to have an opportunity to pursue that interest in an organized manner.

A recent research finding on the impact of a DS curriculum in higher education confirms the transformation that occurs in professionals' ideas about disability, practice, and themselves as a result of that curriculum. The current DS Graduate Portfolio courses offered by TCDS through the School of Social Work (SSW) are well received by Undergraduates who currently take some of the courses to meet the elective requirements of their home programs. The Disability Studies courses appeal to students from a broad range of backgrounds not typically engaged in the study of disability revealing a desire for greater opportunities to broaden their professional skills and overarching knowledge of disability. Providing a DS Minor speaks to current UT student needs and enhances the university’s attractiveness and ability to compete on a national level with other universities for the admission of prospective undergraduate students (including students with disabilities) interested in DS Minor.

8. **ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENT (IF ANY):** GPA of 2.5 or above; completion of thirty undergraduate credit hours.
9. **NUMBER OF STUDENTS EXPECTED TO RECEIVE THE TRANSCRIPT-RECOGNIZED MINOR EACH SEMESTER:** Ten – twenty annually

**10. ANTICIPATED ENROLLMENT CAPACITY?** Sixty - seventy-five

**11. NUMBER OF HOURS REQUIRED FOR COMPLETION:** Fifteen

**12. COMPOSITION OF THE MINOR FACULTY COMMITTEE (INCLUDING THE COMMITTEE CHAIR):**

<b>Name of Faculty Member</b>	<b>College/Department</b>	<b>Title at UT Austin</b>	<b>Highest Degree and Awarding Institution</b>
Zaccheus Ahonle	School of Social Work /(Texas Center for Disability Studies - COE)	Lecturer; Project Manager/Coordinator, Disability Studies Program	Ph.D., the University of Texas at Austin
Lisa Bedore	Moody College of Communication (Dept. of Communication Sciences and Disorders)	Professor and Interim Associate Chair, Communication Sciences and Disorders	Ph.D., Purdue University
Deborah Bolnick	College of Liberal Arts (Dept. of Anthropology); Population Research Center	Associate Professor	Ph.D., University of California, Davis
Allan Cole ( <i>Committee Chair</i> )	School of Social Work (SSW)	Professor; Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Director of Undergraduate Programs	Ph.D., Princeton Seminary, New Jersey
Andrew Dell'Antonio	COFA (Butler School of Music)	Assoc. Dean of Undergraduate Studies COFA, and University Distinguished Teaching Professor of Musicology	Ph.D., UC-Berkeley
Jody Jensen	COE (Dept. of Kinesiology and Health Education)	Professor Department of Kinesiology and Health Education, College of Education Department of Psychology, College of Liberal Arts	Ph.D., University of Maryland, College Park
Jennifer Maedgen	COE (Dept. of Educational Psychology)/Division of Diversity & Community Engagement	Clinical Associate Professor; Senior Associate Vice President and Chief of Staff; UT's ADA/504/EIR Coordinator	Ph.D., the University of Texas at Austin
Julie Minich	College of Liberal Arts (Dept. of English; Mexican American and Latina/o Studies)	Associate Professor, Leslie Waggener, Sr. Centennial Teaching Fellow	PhD, Stanford University (Palo Alto, California)
Kathryn Tackett	COE (Dept. of Special Education)	Clinical Asst. Professor; Undergraduate Advisor, SPED	Ph.D., the University of Texas at Austin

**13. Academic Course Requirements:** Use this table to identify the courses that qualify for this certificate program.

Course Abbreviation and Number	Course Title	SCH
	<b>Required</b>	
SW 325	Foundations of Social Justice (Online)	3
SW 360 K	Introduction to Disability Studies (Online): The Social Context of Disability	3
SW 360 K	Introduction to Disability Studies (Online): Making Systems Work for People with Disabilities	3
	<b>Approved Electives</b>	
ALD 322	Individual Differences (Applied Learning & Development)	3
ANT 302	Cultural Anthropology	3
ANT 349C	Human Variation	3
CSD 306K	Introduction to Communication Sciences and Disorders	3
CSD 308K	Perspectives of Deafness	3
E 376M	Deviant Bodies: Disability, Race, and Sexuality	3
EDP 376T	Disability and Culture in Education	3
KIN 352k	Sport and Disability	3
KIN 360	Programming for People with Disabilities	3
KIN 352k	Adapted Fitness and Recreation	3
SW311—I	Sign Language & Social Work Practice with d/Deaf Clients: Communication, Culture & Advocacy – Part I	3
SW 360K	Aging and Disability	3
SW 360K	Family Support, Self-Determination, and Disability (Online)	3
SW 360K	Developmental Disabilities and Self Advocacy (Online)	3
SW 360K	Women and Disability (Online)	3

**14. OTHER MINOR REQUIREMENTS:** All interested students must apply for admission to the DS Minor. To be considered, students must 1) submit a personal statement of interest in the Disability Studies Minor, and 2) have an overall minimum UT GPA of 2.5. Completion of the DS Minor requires students to take three core courses offered through the TCDS/School of Social Work and two additional courses from the list of electives to complete their required fifteen semester hours. All courses in the Disability Studies Minor are taken on a letter grade basis, and students must earn a minimum grade of a C.

**15. COLLEGE/SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS:**

Department approval date: N/A

Approved by whom: N/A

College approval date: April 14, 2017

Approved by whom: Faculty/curriculum committee

Dean approval date: April 14, 2017

Approved by whom: Luis H. Zayas

## PROPOSED CATALOG LANGUAGE

### Disability Studies (DS) Minor

#### **05.0210 Disability Studies**

A program that focuses on the nature, meaning, and consequences of what it is to be defined as disabled and explores the historical, cultural, economic, physiological, and socio-political dynamics of disability. Includes instruction in disability rights, legal issues, and public policy; literature, philosophy, and the arts; and/or research in the social sciences, education, and health sciences addressing social and experiential aspects of disability.

All interested students must apply for admission to the minor. To be eligible, students must 1) submit a personal statement of interest in the Disability Studies Minor, and 2) have an overall minimum UT GPA of 2.5. The Disability Studies Minor requirements are:

1. Fifteen semester hours, consisting of:
  - a. SW 325, Foundations of Social Justice (Online)
  - b. SW 360 K, Introduction to Disability Studies (Online): The Social Context of Disability
  - c. SW 360 K, Introduction to Disability Studies (Online): Making Systems Work for People with Disabilities
  - d. Six hours chosen from ALD 322, ANT 302, ANT 349C, CSD 306K, CSD 308K, E 376M, EDP 376T, N347, SED 303, SW311—I, KIN 352Ks, KIN 360 or additional Disability Studies courses from SW 360K numbered courses
2. All courses in the DS minor must be taken on a letter grade basis, and students must earn a minimum grade of a C.

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