

# CERTIFICATE IN DISABILITY AND NEURODIVERSITY

The undergraduate Certificate in Disability and Neurodiversity provides an interdisciplinary understanding of individuals across the lifespan with disabilities and is relevant to majors and careers in health, education, rehabilitation, and human service professions. Students will explore how disabilities interact with health, life outcomes, family, society, stigma, and the physical environment, and intersect with identities such as race and gender. This certificate consists of basic coursework as well as experiential learning through research or field experiences. This certificate is open to students in all majors.

## Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this certificate, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the history, philosophy, definitions, and rights related to disabilities and developmental disabilities.
2. Use content knowledge to investigate or optimize the development, health, and well-being of individuals with disabilities.
3. Acquire knowledge regarding the causes, outcomes, and interventions of commonly occurring disabilities and health conditions (e.g., congenital disabilities, diabetes, spinal cord injuries).
4. Describe concepts related to independence, inclusion, ableism, stigma, choice and self-determination, empowerment, access, stigma, identity politics, and acceptance for individual differences as they relate to disability, life stage, and culture.

## Requirements Effective Fall 2024

Additional coursework may be required due to prerequisites. A minimum of 9 credits must be upper division. Some elective courses are restricted to majors, minors, or honors students. Other related courses may be substituted upon approval of the certificate advisor. A maximum of 6 credits may double-count with the Gerontology Interdisciplinary Minor, the Certificate in Youth Mentoring, and the Minor in Human Development and Family Studies.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Course:</b>		
HDFS 315	Disability Across the Lifespan and Culture	3
<b>Select 6 credits from the following:</b>		<b>6</b>
ANEQ 351	Techniques in Therapeutic Riding	
ETST 270	Introduction to Critical Disability Studies	
ETST 420	Disability, Race, Gender in the Environment	
HDFS 317	Disabilities in Early Childhood Education	
HDFS 372/ AGED 372	Inclusive Mentoring for Neurodiverse Peers	
HDFS 410	Promoting Early Socioemotional Development	
HDFS 412	Mental and Physical Health in Adulthood	
HES 345 or HES 354	Population Health and Disease Prevention Theory of Health Behavior	
LASL ***	American Sign Language	
MU 241	Introduction to Music Therapy <sup>1</sup>	

OT 355	The Disability Experience in Society	
<b>Select a minimum of 3 credits directly related to disabilities from the following <sup>2</sup></b>		<b>3</b>
AHS 487B	Human Services Internship: Gerontology <sup>3</sup>	
HDFS 286A-E Practicum		
HDFS 470A	Campus Connections: Youth Mentor	
HDFS 488A-E Internship <sup>1</sup>		
HDFS 498A	Research: Human Development	
HES 486	Practicum–Wellness Program Management <sup>1</sup>	
HONR 499	Senior Honors Thesis <sup>4</sup>	
SOWK 488	Field Placement <sup>1</sup>	

**Program Total Credits:** 12

<sup>1</sup> Restricted to majors only.

<sup>2</sup> Only practica, internships, research assistantships, and theses focused on disabilities or neurodiversity are eligible. Other courses are eligible as appropriate.

<sup>3</sup> Restricted to Gerontology Interdisciplinary Minors only.

<sup>4</sup> Restricted to honors students only.