Course Description
Students will develop independent projects in a topic area of individual interest within disability studies. They will be required to develop a set of readings in this topic area, engage in at least 45 hours of practicum in the form of community site visits, volunteer or internship experiences, write a final paper, and give a final oral presentation of their project. The course instructor will be available to mentor students during scheduled group meetings and individually by appointment. Where appropriate, students will be directed to contact faculty and community experts who have experience in the students' chosen topics. These faculty and community experts will assist in mentoring the students toward project completion.

Learning Objectives
1. The student will use a combination of secondary research and community-based experiences to become expert in the chosen topic area within disability studies and be able to relate that expertise to others.
2. The student will become skilled at how to document attendance, actions, and reactions to the experience of the practicum.
3. The student will appreciate how to perform a literature search and write an annotated bibliography.
4. The student will comprehend how to write a research paper including introduction, literature review, discussion, core theme, conclusion, and future directions sections.
5. The student will understand how to properly cite references in the text of a research paper.
6. The student will learn to synthesize the contents of a paper into a coherent, interesting, and well written abstract.
7. The student will become proficient at presenting the results of the project orally (both research and practicum components) to a peer audience.

Grading
1. Research paper 30%
2. Attendance and class participation 20%
3. Practicum journal 15%
4. Final oral presentation 20%
5. Practicum evaluation and logged attendance 15%

Recommended Text:
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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>YOUR TASK</th>
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| Session 1:   | Introduction to the course  
               Solitude  
               Discussion of practicum sites                                     | Register on zebranet!                                                      |
| 1/30/14      |                                                                      |                                                                           |
| Session 2:   | Unconditional positive regard  
               Discussion of writing a topic proposal  
               Discussion of how site relates to paper  
               Review writing an annotated bibliography                              | Meet with professor during the week for practicum site                     |
| 2/6          |                                                                      |                                                                           |
| 2/13         | **No class**  
               **Use time to research articles for next week**                     | Due by email: Practicum schedule                                          |
| Session 3:   | Discussion of practicum diary  
               Questions regarding annotated bibliography  
               Small group work: review articles                                     | Update zebranet Bring 3 articles to class in binder                        |
| 2/20         |                                                                      |                                                                           |
| Session 4:   | Discussion on writing a literature review  
               Small group work: identify themes in articles                         | Due: annotated bibliography                                               |
| 2/27         |                                                                      |                                                                           |
| Session 5:   | Discussion on oral reports  
               Small group work: practicum presentation                               | Practicum journal after 2 entries                                          |
| 3/6          |                                                                      |                                                                           |
| Session 6:   | Discussion on writing discussion section  
               Small group work: relate practicum to articles                        | Due: literature review                                                     |
| 3/13         |                                                                      |                                                                           |
| **No class 3/20** | **Spring break!**                                   |                                                                           |
| Session 7:   | Discussion on core themes  
               Oral reports                                                            | Due: discussion section                                                    |
| 3/27         |                                                                      |                                                                           |
| Session 8:   | Discussion on abstract, intro, and conclusion  
               Oral reports                                                           | Due: core themes                                                          |
| 4/3          |                                                                      |                                                                           |
| Session 9:   | Discussion on assembling paper in binder  
               Oral reports                                                           | Due: abstract, intro, and conclusion                                       |
| 4/10         |                                                                      |                                                                           |
| **No class 4/17** | **Reading day**                                        |                                                                           |
| Session 10:  | Oral reports                                                           | Due: fully revised paper in binder                                        |
| 4/24         |                                                                      |                                                                           |
| Session 11:  | Oral reports                                                           | Due: practicum journal 5 entries plus reflection                          |
| 5/1          |                                                                      |                                                                           |
| Session 12:  | Discussion on practicum site  
               Small group work: practicum discussion  
               Conclusion                                                            | Due: attendance sheet; update zebranet                                    |
| 5/8          |                                                                      |                                                                           |
| Session 13:  | No final – keep date open for oral reports                           |                                                                           |
| 5/15         |                                                                      |                                                                           |
Disability Studies Project Paper

Papers will be judged by completeness and the quality of the content not length. However, in order to fully present the information in the detail required by this assignment, the papers will be roughly 14 pages in length.

- Abstract (1/2 page)
- Introduction (1/2 page)
- Literature Review (3 pages)
  - Select 2-3 key themes related to your topic and discuss their background and significance in the existing literature.
- Discussion (3 pages)
  - Present and analyze your practicum experience as related to your project topic.
  - How does the existing literature relate to your “real world” experience?
  - Interpret and synthesize the information you received from both sources.
  - Was your experience consistent with what was in the literature or did you find something different?
- Core Themes (1 page each)
  - Integrate one page covering each theme from the fall semester into your work.
- Conclusion and Future Directions (1-2 pages)
  - What did you learn? What might be done differently for future study in this area?
Please check Blackboard daily for course announcements, assignments, and information.

**Americans with Disabilities Act:**

If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Disability Support Services, 128 ECC Building (631) 632-6748. They will determine with you what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

Students who require assistance during emergency evacuation are encouraged to discuss their needs with their professors and Disability Support Services. For procedures and information, go to the following web site: [http://www.ehs.sunysb.edu](http://www.ehs.sunysb.edu) and search Fire Safety and Evacuation/Physical Disabilities

**Academic Integrity:**

Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty are required to report any suspected instances of academic dishonesty, as per the SHTM Academic Policies and Procedures.

**Critical Incident Management:**

Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, or inhibits students' ability to learn, as per the SHTM Academic Policies and Procedures.