

# Program Change Request

APPROVED BY SENATE

12/08/2025

EP.26.062\_FINAL

Approved by EP 11/17/2025

Date Submitted: 02/11/25 12:23 pm

Viewing: **1166 : Disability Studies Minor, UG**

Last approved: 05/07/20 2:24 pm

Last edit: 10/29/25 12:20 pm

Changes proposed by: Kristi Carlson

Catalog Pages Using  
this Program

[Disability Studies Minor](#)

Proposal Type:

Minor (ex. European Union Studies)

This proposal is for

a:

[Revision](#)

## In Workflow

1. U Program Review
2. 1581-HK  
Committee Chair
3. 1581-HK Head
4. KY Committee Chair
5. KY Dean
6. University Librarian
7. COTE Programs
8. Provost
9. Senate EPC
10. Senate
11. U Senate Conf
12. Board of Trustees
13. IBHE
14. HLC
15. Catalog Editor
16. DMI

## Approval Path

1. 02/13/25 4:50 pm  
Donna Butler  
(dbutler): Approved  
for U Program  
Review
2. 02/17/25 12:34 pm  
Kristi Carlson  
(carlso1): Approved  
for 1581-HK  
Committee Chair
3. 02/17/25 2:45 pm  
Kim Graber  
(kgraber): Approved  
for 1581-HK Head
4. 03/03/25 10:05 am  
Robbin King  
(rlking10): Rollback

- to 1581-HK  
Committee Chair for  
KY Committee Chair
5. 10/05/25 5:13 pm  
Kristi Carlson  
(carlso1): Approved  
for 1581-HK  
Committee Chair
6. 10/05/25 6:52 pm  
Kim Graber  
(kgraber): Approved  
for 1581-HK Head
7. 10/16/25 4:01 pm  
Robbin King  
(rlking10):  
Approved for KY  
Committee Chair
8. 10/16/25 4:01 pm  
Robbin King  
(rlking10):  
Approved for KY  
Dean
9. 10/17/25 9:56 am  
Tom Teper (tteper):  
Approved for  
University Librarian
10. 10/17/25 9:58 am  
Suzanne Lee  
(suzannel):  
Approved for COTE  
Programs
11. 10/22/25 3:44 pm  
Brooke Newell  
(bsnewell):  
Approved for  
Provost

## History

1. May 7, 2020 by  
Reggie Alston  
(alston)

# Administration Details

Official Program Name	Disability Studies Minor, UG		
Name			
Diploma Title			
Sponsor College	Applied Health Sciences		
Sponsor	Health and Kinesiology		
Department			
Sponsor Name	<u>Kristi Carlson</u> <del>Reginald J. Alston</del>		
Sponsor Email	<u>carloso1@illinois.edu</u> <del>ralston@illinois.edu</del>		
College Contact	<u>Steve Petruzzello</u> <del>Amy Woods</del>	College Contact Email	
	<u>petruzze@illinois.edu</u> <del>amywoods@illinois.edu</del>		
College Budget Officer	<u>Suzanne Rinehart</u>		
College Budget Officer Email	<u>srinehar@illinois.edu</u>		

If additional stakeholders other than the Sponsor and College Contacts listed above should be contacted if questions during the review process arise, please list them here.

Kristi Carlson, carloso1@illinois.edu, will handle all edits.

Does this program have inter-departmental administration?

No

## Effective Catalog Term

Effective Catalog Term	Fall 2025
Effective Catalog	2025-2026

## Proposal Title

Proposal Title (either Establish/Revise/Eliminate the Degree Name in Program Name in the College of XXXX, i.e., Establish the Bachelor of Science in Entomology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, include the Graduate College for Grad Programs)

Revise the Undergraduate Minor in Disability Studies in the College of Applied Health Sciences

Does this proposal have any related proposals that will also be revised at this time and the programs depend on each other? Consider Majors, Minors, Concentrations & Joint Programs in your department. Please know that this information is used administratively to move related proposals through workflow efficiently and together as needed. Format your response like the following "This BS proposal (key 567) is related to the Concentration A proposal (key 145)"

## Program Justification

---

Provide a brief description, using a numbered item list, of the proposed changes to the program.

1. Revised plan of study to reflect new HK rubric. With this revision, all courses previously labeled REHB/CHLH/KIN have been changed to HK.
2. This proposal seeks to revise the curriculum within the minor. One course, SHS 433, was added as a required course. REHB 420/HK 480 was removed as a required course and added as an elective, and SHS 352 was removed as an option for a required course. RST 260 is now a required course (this course was previously listed as a core option, along with three other courses). CHLH 407/HK 407 and KIN 360/HK 463 were moved from optional core selections to electives. In addition, changes were made among the courses that are listed as electives for the minor. The following courses were removed as electives: CMN 260, CMN 462, CMN 463, CMN 467, GWS 366, SHS 271 and SPED 322. The following courses were added as electives: HK 405, HK 411, HK 442, HK 446, HK 472, HK 482, HK 484, HK 485, SHS 170, SHS 270, SHS 427, SHS 480, SPED 117.
3. The minimum total hours for this minor decreased from 19 to 18.
4. Within "Program Features," minor was changed from "A Comprehensive study in a single discipline" to "An interdisciplinary study focusing on a single theme."

Provide the reasoning for why each change was necessary, using a corresponding numbered item list as it relates to the brief description numbered list above.

1. There is a revised plan of study to reflect the new HK rubric. With this revision, all courses previously labeled as REHB/CHLH/KIN have been changed to HK. Because five rubrics were funneling into one rubric through this transition, in some cases, courses have also been renumbered.

2. Over the past year, members of the Minors and Certificates Committee collaborated with faculty members from both Recreation, Sport and Tourism and Speech and Hearing Science to conduct an extensive review of the Disability Studies minor. Based on their findings, we are proposing to revise the curriculum in order to better prepare students for their future careers. The proposed curriculum provides students with a strong foundation in disability studies, from a variety of perspectives.

3. As a result of the changes proposed to the required foundational courses, the total number of hours for this minor has decreased to 18. Previously, one of the required courses (REHB 420/HK 480) was 4-credit hours. Each of the proposed required foundational courses is 3-credit hours.

4. Given that the minor addresses the theme of disability studies through a variety of disciplines, some of which include Health and Kinesiology; Recreation, Sport, and Tourism; Speech and Hearing Science; Art & Design; Human Development & Family Studies; Special Education, and Social Work, the newly selected category (An interdisciplinary study focusing on a single theme) is more accurate for this minor.

## Instructional Resources

---

Will there be any reduction in other course offerings, programs or concentrations by your department as a result of this new program/proposed change?

No

Does this new program/proposed change result in the replacement of another program?

No

Does the program include other courses/subjects outside of the sponsoring department impacted by the creation/revision of this program? If Yes is selected, indicate the appropriate courses and attach the letter of support/acknowledgement.

Yes

Courses outside of the sponsoring department/interdisciplinary departments:

CMN 462 - Health Comm in Relationships

CMN 463 - Organizational Health Comm

GWS 366 - Feminist Disability Studies  
 SHS 352 - Hearing Health and Society  
 SPED 322 - Intro Intellectual Disability  
 CMN 260 - Intro to Health Communication  
 CMN 467 - Communication & Health Equity  
 SHS 271 - Communication and Aging  
 SHS 170 - Intro Hum Comm Sys & Disorders  
 SHS 270 - Comm Disability in the Media  
 SHS 427 - Language and the Brain  
 SHS 433 - Child Neurodev Disorders  
 SHS 480 - Disability and Assistive Tech  
 SPED 117 - The Culture of Disability

Please attach any [Letter of Acknowledgement\\_SPED.pdf](#)  
 letters of support/  
 acknowledgement [Letter of Acknowledgement\\_CMN.pdf](#)  
 for any [Letter of Acknowledgement\\_GWS.pdf](#)  
 Instructional [Letter of Support\\_SPED.pdf](#)  
 Resources. [Letter of Support\\_SHS.docx](#)  
 Consider faculty, [Letter of Acknowledgement\\_SHS\\_Woods.pdf](#)  
 students, and/or [Letter of Acknowledgement\\_RST 260.pdf](#)  
 other impacted  
 units as  
 appropriate.

## Program Features

Academic Level Undergraduate

Is this minor?

~~A Comprehensive study in a single discipline~~

An interdisciplinary study focusing on a single theme

Is this program part of an ISBE approved licensure program?

No

Will specialized accreditation be sought for this program?

No

Other than certification via the students’ degree audits, is there any additional planned mechanism to award/honor successful completion of the minor?

No

Does this program prepare graduates for entry into a career or profession that is regulated by the State of Illinois?

No

## Program of Study

An undergraduate minor should consist of at least 16 - and no more than 21 hours - of course work, with at least 6 hour of 300- or 400- level courses. Except for clearly remedial offerings, prerequisite courses within the sponsoring unit count towards the total; prerequisite courses outside the sponsoring unit do not count toward this total. The unit sponsoring the minor and that unit's college may set educationally necessary prerequisites for eligibility for the minor within these constraints. Does this proposal meet these criteria?

Yes

Revised programs [Side by Side Disability Studies Minor - Revised.xlsx](#)

## Catalog Page Text - Overview Tab

Catalog Page Overview Text

The undergraduate Minor in Disability Studies focuses on the physical, behavioral, biological, and social aspects of disability and chronic health conditions. ~~The minor disability can include coursework from a broad array of departments, thus accommodating students from different disciplines across the campus.~~ There are no prerequisites for this minor. The curriculum blends cultural and clinical perspectives of disability in society to allow for multiple approaches to understanding disability ~~disability~~ and to enable individual tailoring to meet students' varied career interests (e.g., medicine, nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech-language pathology and audiology). ~~interests.~~

Please refer to <https://studentsuccess.illinois.edu/advisor-resources/advising-illinois/pursuing-an-undergraduate-minor/> ~~<https://provost.illinois.edu/education/advising-resources/pursuing-undergraduate-minor/>~~ for additional information regarding policies related to undergraduate minors.

Is the overview text above correct?

Yes

Statement for  
Programs of Study  
Catalog

**Minimum required course work: Students must take at least six hours of advanced (300-level or 400-level courses) and six hours of coursework must be distinct from credit earned for the student's major or another minor.**

~~Foundational Courses:~~

REHB/ <u>CHLH 330</u>	<u>Course REHB 330 Not Found</u>	
<u>REHB 402</u>	<u>Course REHB 402 Not Found</u>	
<b>Select one course from the following list of Core Options:</b>		<b><u>3</u></b>
<b>Foundational Courses (Required):</b>		<b><u>9</u></b>
<u>HK 302</u>	<u>Disability in American Society</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>RST 260</u>	Disability in Recreation, Sport and Tourism	3
<del>SHS 352</del>	<del>Hearing Health and Society</del>	
<del>CHLH/<u>REHB</u>/ <u>KIN</u> 407/ ANTH 404</del>	<u>Course CHLH 407 Not Found</u>	
<u>KIN 360</u>	<u>Course KIN 360 Not Found</u>	
<u>SHS 433</u>	<u>Children with Neurodevelopmental Disorders Across Communication Contexts</u>	<u>3</u>
<b><u>Elective Courses:</u></b>		<b><u>Minimum of 9</u></b>
<u>ARTD 420</u>	Disability Design	3
<del>CMN 260</del>	<del>Intro to Health Communication</del>	
<del>CMN 462</del>	<del>Health Communication in Relationships</del>	
<u>CMN 463</u>	<u>Course CMN 463 Not Found</u>	
<del>CMN 467</del>	<del>Communication &amp; Health Equity</del>	
<u>HDFS 208</u>	Child and Family Inclusion: Disability, Health, and Diversity	3
<del>GWS 366</del>	<del>Feminist Disability Studies</del>	
<u>REHB 435</u>	<u>Course REHB 435 Not Found</u>	
<u>HK 405</u>	<u>Aging with Disability</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>HK 407</u>	<u>Disability, Culture &amp; Society</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>HK 411</u>	<u>Approaches to Health Education and Advocacy</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>HK 442</u>	<u>Body, Culture &amp; Society</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>HK 446</u>	<u>Physical Activity &amp; Diverse Populations</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>HK 463</u>	<u>Adapted Physical Education</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>HK 472</u>	<u>Health and Kinesiology Study Abroad</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>HK 480</u>	<u>Medical Aspects of Disability</u>	<u>4</u>



<u>HK 481</u>	<u>Work and Disability</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>HK 482</u>	<u>Counseling Techniques for Health Professionals</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>HK 484</u>	<u>Psychosocial Aspects in Health and Rehabilitation</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>HK 485</u>	<u>Assessment in the Rehabilitation Setting</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>RST 230</u>	Diversity in Recreation, Sport, and Tourism	3
<u>SHS 170</u>	<u>Intro Hum Comm Sys &amp; Disorders</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>SHS 222</u>	Language & Culture of Deaf Communities	3
<del>SHS 271</del>	<del>Communication and Aging</del>	
<u>SHS 270</u>	<u>Comm Disability in the Media</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>SHS 380</u>	Comm Competence and Disorders	3
<u>SHS 427</u>	<u>Language and the Brain</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>SHS 480</u>	<u>Understanding Disability and Assistive Technology</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>SPED 117</u>	<u>The Culture of Disability</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>SOCW 370</u>	Social Work and Disability Studies	3
<del>SPED 322</del>	<del>Introduction to Intellectual Disability</del>	
<u>Total Hours</u>		<u>Minimum of</u> <u>18</u>

~~Minimum hours required for completion: 19 hours.~~

## Program Regulation and Assessment

### Plan to Assess and Improve Student Learning

*Illinois Administrative Code: 1050.30(b)(1)(D) Provision is made for guidance and counseling of students, evaluations of student performance, continuous monitoring of progress of students toward their degree objectives and appropriate academic record keeping.*

Are the learning outcomes for the program listed in the Academic Catalog?

No

## Student Learning Outcomes

1. Increase cultural competency by critically examining disability as a global societal phenomenon.
2. Acquire an awareness and understanding of the various roles and rights of people with disability in history and in modern society.
3. Examine ways in which systems inhibit and promote full participation of people with disabilities.
4. Develop analytical and observation skills and apply inclusive disability frameworks to your academic, professional, and personal life. ~~Not applicable.~~

Describe how, when, and where these learning outcomes will be assessed.

Describe here:

Identify faculty expectations for students' achievement of each of the stated student learning outcomes. What score, rating, or level of expertise will signify that students have met each outcome? Provide rating rubrics as necessary.

Explain the process that will be implemented to ensure that assessment results are used to improve student learning.

Program

Description and

Requirements

Attach Documents

## Delivery Method

---

This program is  
available:

On Campus - Students are required to be on campus, they may take some online courses.

## Enrollment

---

Will the department limit enrollment to the minor?

No

Describe how the department will monitor the admission to/enrollment in the minor.

The Department of Health Kinesiology and Kinesiology Community Health will provide and coordinate ~~at least~~ two enrollment periods (fall ~~(Fall~~ and spring ~~Spring~~ semesters) for the minor each academic year. ~~Students will need to apply by the application due date by submitting a short application including their intent to minor and their minor completion plan, with an optional section for any additional information they would like to be considered.~~ Students will indicate their intent ~~are admitted~~ to declare a ~~the~~ minor by completing the Intent to Pursue a Minor Declaration Form available on both the Department form (<https://provost.illinois.edu/files/2017/01/Intent-to-Pursue-Minor.pdf>) and College website. ~~bringing it to the office of KCH in Freer Hall for signatures by the Coordinator. Once it~~ The student is confirmed that a student meets ~~required to submit~~ the criteria outlined on the Minor Declaration Form, they will be admitted to the minor. ~~intent to their home department for signatures.~~ The minor will be open to all undergraduates. ~~There are no additional requirements.~~ The Department ~~If students are matriculating from outside the college, the Coordinator of Health~~ the minor will serve as the liaison with the advisors from external units to monitor proper completion of coursework and Kinesiology has a faculty member who oversees all minors within the department, and who will be responsible ~~requirements~~ for advising all students enrolled in the minor programs. ~~the minor.~~

Are there any prerequisites for the proposed minor?

No

Describe how this revision or phase down/elimination will impact enrollment and degrees awarded. If this is an elimination/phase down proposal include the plans for the students left in the program.

This revision will have no/minimal impact on enrollment or degrees awarded.

## Budget

Are there budgetary implications for this revision? No

Will the program or revision require staffing (faculty, advisors, etc.) beyond what is currently available?

No

Additional Budget Information Not applicable.

Attach File(s)

## Financial Resources

---

How does the unit intend to financially support this proposal?

~~There are no foreseen budgetary implications associated with the proposed minor that should require additional financial support. The impact on internal reallocations is expected to be minimal. It is anticipated that 30-40 students will enroll in the minor. A professor of rehabilitation was recently hired within the Department of Kinesiology and Community Health (KCH). Part of his responsibilities will include coordination of the minor and helping to advise students entering the minor, so no additional resources will be needed in that area. This professor will be provided with adequate release time to allow for the number of students within the minor, which will be adjusted accordingly as the minor grows in popularity. Current resources including classrooms and staff are adequate to include the additional students. The additional students populating courses in the minor will result in an increase of IUs and have a positive impact on the KCH budget.~~

Will the unit need to seek campus or other external resources?

No

Attach letters of support

## Library Resources

---

Describe your proposal's impact on the University Library's resources, collections, and services. If necessary please consult with the appropriate disciplinary specialist within the University Library.

The proposal was shared with the Library's Applied Health Sciences subject specialist who indicated that the Library already acquires material for this area, including online and print books and journals, as well as relevant databases. The current proposal has no impact on library resources and services.

## EP Documentation

---

EP Control Number    EP.26.062

Attach Rollback/  
Approval Notices

## Non-EP Documentation

---

U Program Review  
Comments

Attach Final  
Approval Notices  
  
Banner/Codebook  
Name  
Disability Studies

Program Code:	1166			
Minor Code	1166	Conc Code	Degree Code	Major Code

Senate Approval  
Date  
  
Senate Conference  
Approval Date  
  
BOT Approval Date  
  
IBHE Approval Date  
  
HLC Approval Date  
  
DOE Approval Date  
  
Effective Date:

Program Reviewer Comments	<p><b>Shannon Mejia (stmejia) (02/24/25 1:07 pm):</b> This is a well-reasoned and well-explained proposal to revise the disability studies minor. Links to the letters for CMN and GWS may be broken (I checked on two browsers).</p> <p><b>Jacob Fredericks (jfred) (02/25/25 1:27 pm):</b> No additional comments.</p> <p><b>Ian Mertes (imertes) (02/28/25 12:58 pm):</b> In the Catalog Page Overview Text, I recommend changing "speech/hearing therapy" to "speech-language pathology and audiology" to reflect the profession names.</p> <p><b>Steve Petruzzello (petruzze) (02/28/25 4:42 pm):</b> In the subsection of Program Justification section “Provide the reasoning . . .”, in response #2 there isn’t any justification given for the removal of courses from other units on campus offering disability courses. What did the Minors and Certificates Committee discover in their extensive review that warrants the removal of these courses. It would seem like these would give students pursuing this minor a broader perspective on disability studies. Having examined some of the attached “Letters of Acknowledgement”, these are simply indication that the various units know about the</p>
------------------------------	---

proposed changes. Was there any further discussion with these impacted units? This is even more relevant given the text in the Catalog Page Overview Text that reads "The curriculum blends cultural and clinical perspectives of disability in society to allow for multiple approaches to understanding disability and to enable individual tailoring to meet students' varied career interests (e.g., medicine, nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech/hearing therapy)." How does limiting the potential courses help achieve that aim? The proposed limited course selection also doesn't seem to align particularly well with the stated Student Learning Outcomes (e.g., disability as a global societal phenomenon). Further, the link <https://provost.illinois.edu/education/advising-resources/pursuing-undergraduate-minor/> is broken and should be updated. In the Enrollment section, why does it state that students "will apply"? The link on the College website takes the student interested in the minor to a Minor Declaration Form, not an application. Further, there is not a location (nor guidance) on a minor completion plan or section for additional information. This should be checked and modified as needed. Also, the link to Intent to Pursue a Minor (<https://provost.illinois.edu/files/2017/01/Intent-to-Pursue-Minor.pdf>) is a broken link; please update. In the Financial Resources section, it isn't clear why this was deleted. It seems like a good bit of info to provide.

**Justin Aronoff (jaronoff) (03/02/25 11:57 pm):** I share Steve's concern that there is not sufficient justification for the removal of courses outside of HK, which would seem to greatly reduce student choice and appears to be counter to the stated goals of the minor. I also would recommend updating the student learning outcomes so that they can be assessed (e.g., "Demonstrate an awareness..." instead of "Acquire an awareness...").

**Robbin King (rlking10) (03/03/25 10:06 am):** Rollback: Rolling back: Please review committee comments, edit and re-submit.

**Wesley Wilson (wjwilson) (03/03/25 2:38 pm):** I wonder if there is a misalignment between the Student Learning Outcomes and the included courses? Right now, it appears that the outcomes are centered on social or social-relational models of understanding of disability, with a focus on interrogating societal systems--maybe what you'd expect to see in critical disability studies. For what it is worth, I love the outcomes, but are they consistent with "Medical Aspects of Disability," a foundational course for the minor? This seems to be antithetical to the SLOs and more aligned with a medical understanding of disability.

**Wesley Wilson (wjwilson) (03/03/25 2:39 pm):** There may be other course on the list that may also not align with the SLOs.

**Meaghan McKenna (meaghanm) (03/04/25 7:13 am):** Can more of an explanation be provided about why the following courses were removed as electives: ARTD 420, CMN 260, CMN 462, CMN 463, CMN 467, HDFS 208, GWS 366, RST 230, SHS 222, SHS 380, SOCW 370, and SPED 322. If the purpose of this revision is to prepare students for their future careers shouldn't they have options for electives across disciplines/departments to prepare them for interprofessional practice?

**Kristi Carlson (carlso1) (10/05/25 5:13 pm):** Proposal was revised to address all comments/suggestions. Over the summer, faculty members from RST, SHS, and HK met to discuss the minor and determined which courses were best suited for the minor, in an attempt to make sure the minor was still interdisciplinary in nature. The minor includes courses from HK, RST,

SHS, SPED, ARTD, HDFS, and SOCW. Some courses were removed due to lack of student enrollment in previous semesters and/or course availability. All departments have been notified if a course was removed, and provided acknowledgement of having received this information.

**Brooke Newell (bsnewell) (10/22/25 3:35 pm):** revisions to instructional resources, justification and program of study table made in consultation with Kristi C and Steve P.