

Disability Studies (H002200)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 6.0

Study time 180 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2025-2026

A (semester 1)

Dutch

Gent

independent work

lecture

group work

seminar

Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

De Schauwer, Elisabeth

PP10

lecturer-in-charge

Vandenbussche, Hanne

PP10

co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

Master of Science in Educational Sciences (main subject Clinical Special Needs Education and Disability Studies)

6

A

Master of Science in Global Health

6

A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Disability studies, access, crippling, belonging, inclusion and ableism

Position of the course

This course is part of the Masters Program of Educational Sciences

With this course we try to link to following strategic goals: multiperspectivism - how to handle diversity? - critical paradigm and research - how to link scientific research with trying to get societal impact?

We explore the transdisciplinary research area of Disability Studies. We work with topics that are crucial in this field: access, belonging and inclusion to find a equal place in society. From their lived experiences people with disabilities fight against discrimination, exclusion and ableism. In daily crippling practices they claim their disability and try to formulate alternative ways of living.

Contents

There are 6 lessons around the central topics of the course: disability studies, access, belonging, inclusion, ableism and crippling. There are digital learning paths around each of these topics on Ufora. Between the lessons we have working colleges for the students where the lived experiences of people with disabilities are very central.

Initial competences

This course is linked to knowledge about Diversity and Inclusion.

Final competences

- 1 To participate actively in important orthopedagogical social discussions that arise around concepts like integrated treatment, inclusion, and empowerment.
- 2 To situate various scientific approaches and to evaluate them critically and to integrate them in function of their potential utility for the resolution of orthopedagogical problems.

- 3 To develop one's own expertise and, in the context of team work, the ability to confront it with, and integrate it into, the perspectives and competencies of 'others' (both 'clients' and 'colleagues').
- 4 To situate basic concepts from the theory formation concerning disability studies and to reflect critically on the consequences thereof for the support of people with limitations.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Group work, Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Teaching language is Dutch, some English spoken guest lectures are possible.
This course assumes the responsible use of generative artificial intelligence (GAI).
During the lessons, what this means will be explained.

Study material

Type: Handouts

Name: Specific papers according to the topic of the lesson
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : English
Available on Ufora : Yes

References

Digital learning paths through Ufora.
Titchkosky, T., Cagulada, E., DeWelles, M., & Gold, E. (Eds.). (2022). *DisAppearing: Encounters in disability studies*. Canadian Scholars.

Course content-related study coaching

Interactive support using UFORA, before of after the lessons and through the work colleges

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation, Written assessment with open-ended questions, Oral assessment open-book

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

Written exam - written evaluation

Calculation of the examination mark

80% (Written exam) - 20 % (participation during work colleges)

Facilities for Working Students

students with a job can get reasonable accommodations