

The Program

The program of study is designed around identified core competencies and related electives, with a requirement of 18 completed credit hours of approved coursework. Students are expected to complete the basic program within five years. Students who successfully complete the certificate program will receive a Certificate in Interdisciplinary Disability Studies from the University of Vermont.

The Curriculum

The curriculum is interdisciplinary, drawing primarily on academic resources of:

- College of Education and Social Services (CESS): Center on Disability and Community Inclusion (CDCI); and the Special Education Program
- College of Arts & Sciences (CAS): Department of Communication Sciences
- College of Medicine (COM), Vermont Interdisciplinary Leadership Education for Health Professionals (VT-ILEHP) Program.

Requirements

- Completed bachelor's degree.
- Application (Processing fee must accompany the application.)
- Official transcripts from each college or university where credit has been earned.
- Three letters of recommendation.
- A personal statement.

A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 is recommended to ensure academic success at the advanced level.

Program of Study: Two Options *

Option 1: Allows the student to develop a core understanding of interdisciplinary practice across disabilities			
FALL		SPRING	
CMSI 311 Interdisciplinary Seminar in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities I (3 cr.)		CMSI 312 Interdisciplinary Seminar in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities II (3 cr.)	
Individualized Independent Study in Research in a Disability area of interest (3 cr)		CMSI 274 (EDSP 274) Culture of Disability (3 cr.)	
Practicum I: VT-ILEHP Community-Based Assessment Practicum (3 cr.)		Practicum II: VT-ILEHP Community-Based Assessment Practicum (3 cr.)	
Total credits	9	+	9 = 18

Option 2: Allows the student to develop a core understanding of interdisciplinary practice across disabilities and then provides an opportunity for a focused area of study within a disability or related practice area (see possible strand courses)			
FALL		SPRING	
CMSI 311 Interdisciplinary Seminar in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities I (3 cr.)		CMSI 312 Interdisciplinary Seminar in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities II (3 cr.)	
Individualized Independent Study in Research or a 3 rd course in a disability area of interest (3 cr.)		CMSI 274 Culture of Disability (3 cr.)	
Strand Course in targeted area (3 cr.)		Another course from identified strand areas (3 cr.)	
Total credits	9	+	9 = 18

Strands include: Advocacy & Policy, Communication, Autism Spectrum Disorders, Life-Span, Developmental Disabilities and Emotional Disabilities.

For a full list of courses: www.uvm.edu/~cdci



* Students should be aware that semester offerings may vary between Fall and Spring each year, and courses for option 2 may include summer courses.

The Certificate of Graduate Studies in the Interdisciplinary Study of Disabilities

provides people in a variety of educational, health care and other occupations the opportunity to acquire information and knowledge that is critical to understanding and supporting persons with disabilities in communities. The intent of the program is to enhance the diverse education and instructional needs of educators, health care professionals, people with disabilities, and family members. The program provides a unique interdisciplinary approach to disability studies and is intended to complement traditional, discipline-specific programs. It is specifically designed for advanced level students who have, at minimum, completed a bachelor's degree.

Established 2007

Program Coordinators

- Susan Ryan, Ph.D.
- Patricia A. Prelock, Ph.D.
- Wes Williams, Ph.D.

Collaborators

- Special Education Program, Department of Education
- Department of Communication Sciences
- VT-ILEHP Program
- Center on Disability and Community Inclusion

To apply contact:

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The UNIVERSITY of VERMONT

Certificate of Graduate Studies in the

Interdisciplinary Study of Disability

