Are you looking to supplement your graduate studies? Would you like to know more about supporting persons with disabilities?

The Institute for Human Development has just the certificate program for you. IHD offers an Interdisciplinary Certificate in Disability Policy and Practice which can provide you with valuable knowledge and skills if you plan to work in a career supporting persons with disabilities.

Interdisciplinary Certificate in Disability Policy and Practice

In the 21st century, professionals will need to have an understanding and appreciation of interprofessional practice and diversity to be successful.

Disability, though not often thought of as part of the diverse, underrepresented identities of race, ethnicity and gender is claimed by nearly 20 percent of people in the United States. It is estimated that 15% of the world's population, or more than 1 billion people currently experience disability (World report on Disability, 2011).

Learning how disability affects individuals and our society is an important aspect of being an educated citizen and an effective professional.

By completing the interdisciplinary, graduate certificate in Disability Policy and Practice students will gain a deeper understanding of the complexity of disability and current disability issues that will develop and enhance their interprofessional knowledge and skills.

This online, 12 credit, graduate certificate is designed to complement students' graduate work from a number of disciplines or to provide professionals already in a career with additional information about disabilities that will enhance and broaden their current level of knowledge and skills.

Graduates from this certificate program may advance their careers in social work, education, and health care fields including rehabilitative medicine. Other applications include the field of engineering, architecture and interior design, administration, business management, politics and law and the creative arts.

For more information: http://nau.edu/SBS/IHD/Programs/Disability-Policy/

About the Institute

The Institute for Human Development (IHD) is a disability research and training program located on the campus of Northern Arizona University. It is one of a national network of University Centers for Excellence in Disability Education, Training and Service (UCEDD) authorized by the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act and funded through the Administration on Developmental Disabilities. IHD applies the resources of an institution of higher education toward creating and improving community service systems that support individuals with disabilities.

Please visit: http://nau.edu/shs/ihd/.
Interdisciplinary Certificate in Disability Policy and Practice

The Graduate Certificate in Disability Policy and Practice prepares you to be an effective member of an interdisciplinary team working with people with disabilities and their families. Through a combination of learning activities in four courses you will build your understanding of current disability issues viewed from a disability studies perspective including policy, evidenced-based practices, person-centered planning, ethics, advocacy, and self-determination.

Students and professionals from many disciplines will learn how to apply a disability studies perspective to the work they do in services for persons with disabilities in educational, clinical, and community programs. The knowledge and skills acquired from this certificate program will prepare graduates to promote increased access, attitude and inclusion for persons with disabilities.

This online, graduate certificate program requires admission to the NAU graduate college. There are no admission requirements over and above the NAU graduate admission requirements.

The certificate requirements are the following 12 units:

- DIS 503: Foundations of Disability Studies
- DIS 504: Applications of a Disability Studies Framework
- DIS 507: Advanced Principles of Family Support, Self-Determination and Disability
- DIS 689: Capstone Course*

* If this certificate is completed in conjunction with a Master’s Degree, DIS 689 may be replaced with thesis (699), research (685) or capstone credits (689) in another discipline. Approval from the thesis/research/capstone chair and the IHD program is required for this substitution. Please see the IHD Graduate Certificate handbook for policies and procedures.

This certificate may be pursued and completed concurrently with a degree program or as a stand-alone certificate. Under both circumstances, federal financial aid can be used for this certificate. We accept applications year-round.

The 12-unit sequence can be done within a 2-semester (fall and spring) academic year with students taking 2 courses each semester; DIS 503 and DIS 507 in the fall semester then DIS 504 and DIS 689 in the spring semester. For those needing to take only one course per semester the sequence would be: Fall I- DIS 503, Spring I-DIS 504 with Fall II-DIS 507 and Spring II-DIS 689.

For more information on the graduate certificate program please contact:

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