GSWS 320-4: Crippling the Norm: Disability Studies and its Intersections

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Lecture: Thursdays 8:30 – 12:20 BLU 9655
Office hours: TBA
Office: TBA

Course Description:
This course provides an overview of critical feminist disability studies, as well as considering its relation to disabled experience, embodiment, and activism. Students will examine the intersection of disability with other social categories, such as gender, race, sexuality, and class, drawing on feminist theory, critical race studies, poststructuralism, and queer and transgender theory. As well as theoretical perspectives, students will also engage with disability in autobiography, media, law, and art.

Learning Outcomes:
Students can expect to:
- Gain a comprehensive overview of contemporary theoretical perspectives on disability and connect these issues to their own experiences
- Gain an understanding of the construction of dis/ability and its role as a system of oppression
- Enhance critical analytic skills and capacity to conduct original research
- Improve written and verbal communication through class exercises and discussions, group project work and assignments
- Develop creative thinking and intellectual curiosity

Course Texts and Courseware:
- Course Reader

Film/Video Screenings
- *No Apologies* (Wry Crips Disabled Women’s Theatre Group)
- *want* (dir. Loree Erickson, 2006)

Course Evaluation and Assignments:
Attendance and Participation: 20%
Journal Responses: 10%
Short Paper: 20%
Creative/Community Group Project: 15%
Final Paper Proposal: 5%
Final Paper: 30%

Prerequisite: 15 units