THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN STEVE HICKS SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Course Number:SW 360k/SW 395KInstructor:Dr. Nick Winges-YanezUnique Number:59539/59919Email:nwingesyanez@utexas.edu

Semester: Fall 2020 Office: 3.XXX

Meeting Time/Place: Online Office Phone: 512-232-0744

Office Hours: Thursdays, 2-4pm Alt. Phone: 512-766-6415 (Google Voice:

Or by appointment voice, text)

Sexuality & Disability

I. STANDARDIZED COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course, we will review the intersection of sexuality and disability and the complex historical influences that impact discussions of sexuality in relationship to disability. The intersection of sexuality and disability is rarely acknowledged or analyzed. People with disabilities have been viewed as asexual, hypersexual, or as victims, where their agency as sexual beings is overlooked. This course will explore the social justice issues surrounding disability and sexuality using the perspective of social work values and ethics to guide learning. Particular attention will be given to the concepts of diversity and inclusion in relation to disability and sexuality.

II. STANDARDIZED COURSE OBJECTIVES

Learning objectives for this course are as follows:

- Demonstrate understanding of how sexuality has played an integral role in defining society's understanding of disability.
- Identify ways people with disabilities are excluded from discussions of sexuality.
- Demonstrate understanding of the social justice issues surrounding sexuality and disability.
- Demonstrate understanding, affirmation, and respect for persons from different backgrounds, including age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, class, religious belief or spirituality, family structure, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, national origin, or other issues of diversity related to disability and sexuality.
- Identify current movements associated with challenging the barriers people with disabilities face interacting with and expressing their sexuality
- Demonstrate understanding of the complexity of human sexuality and intersectionality.
- Demonstrate skills in engagement, assessment and intervention planning around sexuality issues and disability.

III. TEACHING METHODS

This class is entirely online.

In order for this course to succeed, we must all make a commitment to honoring the diversity of the human experience and remaining open to the exploration of this diversity. As part of our commitment to cultivating this kind of environment, we bring the following assumptions to the course:

- Students and professors both bring valuable experience, knowledge, and insights, and our learning this semester will be a collective effort.
- We all have areas of knowledge and mastery. Likewise, we all have gaps. Education is the
 process of filling these gaps, sharing knowledge, and illuminating new insights, connections, and
 questions.
- Everyone has the right to voice opinions/thoughts/questions. We ask that you treat one another professionally, but encourage you all to ask questions, interrogate assumptions, and share your knowledge. (Think of it as walking gently with your peers to engage in difficult conversations)
- Critical feedback and evaluation are constructive tools for growth and improvement.
 Throughout this class, you will be pushed to think deeply and critically about course materials, and to question your assumptions. This is all part of the learning process.
- It is accepted as a given in this course that discrimination, oppression, and marginalization are part of our society. This includes ableism, sexism, racism, classism, homophobia, transphobia, and other forms of intolerance. We will not tolerate their expression (in any form) in this course. We will, however, invite these issues into our dialogue for critique and exploration.

(excerpted from Dr. Ben Anderson-Nathe)

IV. REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS

All other readings and materials will be provided to students in Canvas.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Critical Thinking: Disability studies is the study of how disability interacts with society, economics, history, politics, and other areas. Disability as an identity and an experience is integral to any discussion of -isms (eg. Racism, heterosexism, classism, etc.). I do not want any work in this course to be busy work. My goal is for students to unpack preconceived notions, biases, and unlearn a lot of misinformation AND THEN figure out how to apply this new information or way of thinking to life; this application can mean professionally or personally or both.

To This End: <u>UNGRADING</u>. What is this? Grading every student on a Universal Standard does not work and is contrary to Critical Disability Studies. Every student engages with material differently. The multidimensional experience of learning requires not a standard rubric, but a discussion – but how to do this? Well, I will give students some assignments during the first couple of weeks and provide a very general rubric of what I'm looking for. Then, students will begin to assess themselves. For each assignment, I will provide a lot of feedback versus a grade. Why? Because generally, once students see their grade, they abandon the feedback part – but the feedback is the most important part!

I expect students to engage a lot with each other through Slack and Canvas. From these interactions and discussions, I will have each student create a product (video, paper) that discusses what this provided you and how you engaged with the material and your peers. These products will be due every two weeks.

At the end of the course, you will write up a paper, do a podcast, create a video – create a final product that discusses what you got out of this course and how you can take this material with you in the future – whether it be the actual material OR how to talk with someone about a very delicate subject (like disability, religion, politics). Each student, in this paper, will also provide the grade they believe they should get based on their interaction with the course*.

*I reserve the right to change any grade a student gives themselves. Students may feel uncomfortable with this process, so this is why I am the backup.

Lesson Assignments: Students will complete all readings or other assigned materials (including videos or additional topical research) for each lesson. In addition, students will complete assignments to demonstrate their understanding of these readings and course materials. Details will be provided each lesson so that these activities can best address the topics at hand.

Slack: SLACK
 https://join.slack.com/t/sexualityandd-hp64785/shared_invite/zt-gbdrhho0-ellzqHWvt7716EHrjO8YQA

You will need to join Slack (app) to have additional group discussions; these discussions are in addition to your Canvas discussions and self-assessments.

Interact with classmates on Slack for each lesson (in the channels section on the left side of homepage). Discuss the materials, what came up for you, questions, thoughts. I expect students to engage throughout the module (2 weeks) with at least 4-5 posts that are meaningful; i.e., **not** adding one-word responses, or "I agree/disagree", or "great post", etc. You can also add various media here to get your point across or engage other students. I ask that you maintain the framing from above (1).

- <u>Discussion Boards:</u> This is where students will interact with the whole class to answer a specific prompt or question related to lesson materials.
 - Your post must be at least 2 paragraphs AND add something new to the discussion. Alternately, students can post an audio/video that is at least two minutes long.
 - You must respond to at least one other student (if you are the first to post, ask some questions of your peers regarding the topic). This can also be an audio/video.
 - These discussion posts substitute in-class discussions. Respond to one another, comment, and respectfully and thoughtfully counterpoint. I do read all posts. At times, I will respond and comment as well. However, I try not to interrupt the flow of the conversation between students.
 - <u>Reflection Product</u>: At the end of each module, students will write a paper or create a video reflecting on the materials AND assignments from the module. What was new? What was surprising? What was uncomfortable? How was the group interaction? At the end of each paper/video, tell me what grade you think you earned for that module.
 - <u>Grad Students Only:</u> Grad students will have a separate group discussion in addition to the other assignments with additional resources to reflect on.
 - <u>Meetups</u>: We will have meetups for students to have time to engage in real time with me and with each other. These meetups will be in the form of trivia (in teams) or café conversations. I will post these meetups for students in Canvas with links to attend. You must attend at least two throughout the semester. This will be reflected in your ungrading rubric for the end of the course.
 - Dates for Meetups (Link to access will be in the module corresponding to the date of the meetup. Meetups will be on Fridays.)
 - Friday, Sept. 11 @ 3-4:30

- Friday, Sept. 18 @ 3-4:30
- Friday, Oct. 9 @ 3-4:30
- Friday, Oct. 23 @ 3-4:30
- Friday, Dec. 4 @ 3-4:30
- **Final Project:** Each student will write up a paper, create a podcast, create a video a product that you create about your overall takeaways from this course, the learning process, the self-assessment process, and how to apply the material/skills gained from this class to your profession or your personal life (if you are not yet sure of your profession).

Questions to consider:

- 1. What was most useful in this class?
- 2. What was the process of ungrading like?
- 3. How do you feel about engaging in discussions about disability/sexuality with others?
- 4. What is something you learned? What surprised you?
- 5. How is this material useful to you?
- 6. **REQUIRED** what grade do you give yourself and why?

EXTRA CREDIT: An extra 1 point (to be attributed to Final Grade) is possible for completing the TCDS survey posted at the beginning and end of the semester in the announcement section of Canvas.

There will be <u>no exams</u> for this class. Students will demonstrate their understanding of the materials and proficiency in the course learning objectives through lesson assignments. I will often ask you to synthesize information from previous lessons in order to build upon what you've already learned.

All due dates will be 11:59pm Wednesday evenings.

VI. GRADES

94.0 and Above	Α
90.0 to 93.999	A-
87.0 to 89.999	B+
84.0 to 86.999	В
80.0 to 83.999	B-
77.0 to 79.999	C+
74.0 to 76.999	С
70.0 to 73.999	C-
67.0 to 69.999	D+
64.0 to 66.999	D
60.0 to 63.999	D-
Below 60.0	F

VII. CLASS POLICIES

<u>Late Work:</u> Whenever possible, contact the professor in advance of any anticipated late work. Discussion posts can only occur during the week assigned since class interaction is part of the grade, so these cannot be made up.

<u>Class Participation</u>: Students are expected to participate in any required activities or assignments. Failure to do so will have a negative impact on one's grade. Since this is an online course, student participation will be assessed via assignments, online discussions, and interactions on Slack.

<u>Behavior Expectations</u>: All students are expected to carry themselves in a respectful and professional manner.

<u>Communication:</u> Students are encouraged to contact the professor with any questions or concerns. Email will be the primary form of communication, and the professor will respond to emails received on weekdays (Monday-Friday) within 36 hours.

<u>Grades</u>: Grades received are final and are not subject to negotiation. **An extra 1 point** is possible for the assignments grade by completing both surveys (beginning and end of semester) for TCDS (these will be in announcements).

The professor reserves the right to make changes to course readings, assignments, and due dates detailed in this syllabus.

VIII. UNIVERSITY POLICIES

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HONOR CODE. The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.

DOCUMENTED DISABILITY STATEMENT. Any student who requires special accommodations must obtain a letter that documents the disability from the Services for Students with Disabilities area of the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement (471- 6259 voice or 471-4641 TTY for users who are deaf or hard of hearing). A student should present the letter to the professor at the beginning of the semester so that needed accommodations can be discussed and followed. The student should remind the professor of any testing accommodations no later than five business days before an exam. For more information, visit: http://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/.

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND CIVILITY IN THE CLASSROOM. The professor expects students to act as professionals in class. This means students should arrive on time for class, be prepared to participate in the class discussion, and show respect for one another's opinions. A course brings together a group of diverse individuals with various backgrounds. Students are influenced and shaped by such factors as race, ethnicity, gender, sex, physical abilities, religious and political beliefs, national origins, and sexual orientations, among others. We expect to learn from each other in an atmosphere of positive engagement and mutual respect. This atmosphere includes working intentionally to recognize and dismantle racism, sexism, heterosexism, and ableism in the classroom. Social Work also deals with complex and controversial issues. These issues may be challenging and uncomfortable, and it would be impossible to offer a substantive classroom experience that did not include potentially difficult conversations relating to challenging issues. In this environment, we will be exposed to diverse ideas and opinions, and sometimes we will not agree with the ideas expressed by others. Nevertheless, the professor requires that students engage one another with civility, respect, and professionalism.

UNANTICIPATED DISTRESS. Students may experience unexpected and/or distressing reactions to course readings, videos, conversations, and assignments. If so, students are encouraged to inform the professor. The professor can be responsive and supportive regarding students' participation in course

assignments and activities, but students are responsible for communicating clearly what kind of support is desired. If counseling is needed, students may contact a service provider of their choosing, including the UT Counseling Center at 512-471-3515 or online at https://cmhc.utexas.edu/.

POLICY ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION. Public social networks are not private. Even when open only to approved or invited members, users cannot be certain that privacy will exist among the general membership of sites. If social work students choose to participate in such forums, please assume that anything posted can be seen, read, and critiqued. What is said, posted, linked to, commented on, uploaded, subscribed to, etc., can be accessed and archived, posing potential harm to professional reputations and prospective careers.

Social work students who use social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) and other forms of electronic communication (e.g. blogs) must be mindful of how their communication may be perceived by clients, colleagues, faculty, and others. Social work students are expected to make every effort to minimize material which could be considered inappropriate for a professional social worker in training. Because of this, social work students are advised to manage security settings at their most private levels and avoid posting information/photos or using any language that could jeopardize their professional image.

Students are asked to consider the amount of personal information posted on these sites and are obliged to block any client access to involvement in the students' social networks. Client material should not be referred to in any form of electronic media, including *any* information that might lead to the identification of a client or compromise client confidentiality in *any* way. Additionally, students must critically evaluate any material that is posted regarding community agencies and professional relationships, as certain material could violate the standards set by the School of Social Work, the Texas Code of Conduct for Social Workers, and/or the NASW Code of Ethics.

Social work students should consider that they will be representing professional social work practice as well as The University of Texas at Austin School of Social Work program while in the classroom, the university community, and the broader area communities.

POLICY ON SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY. Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. For further information, the student may refer to the Web Site of the Student Judicial Services, Office of the Dean of Students: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/.

SHARING OF COURSE MATERIALS IS PROHIBITED No materials used in this class, including, but not limited to, lecture hand-outs, videos, assessments (quizzes, exams, papers, projects, homework assignments), in-class materials, review sheets, and additional problem sets, may be shared online or with anyone outside of the class unless you have my explicit, written permission. Unauthorized sharing of materials promotes cheating. It is a violation of the University's Student Honor Code and an act of academic dishonesty. I am well aware of the sites used for sharing materials, and any materials found online that are associated with you, or any suspected unauthorized sharing of materials, will be reported to Student Conduct and Academic Integrity in the Office of the Dean of Students. These reports can result in sanctions, including failure in the course.

USE OF COURSE MATERIALS. The materials used in this course, including, but not limited to exams, quizzes, and homework assignments, are copyright protected works. Any unauthorized duplication of

the course materials is a violation of federal law and may result in disciplinary action being taken against the student. Additionally, the sharing of course materials without the specific, express approval of the professor may be a violation of the University's Student Honor Code and an act of academic dishonesty, which could result in further disciplinary action. This sharing includes, among other things, uploading class materials to websites for the purpose of distributing those materials to other current or future students.

CLASSROOM CONFIDENTIALITY. Information shared in class about agencies, clients, and personal matters is considered confidential per the NASW Code of Ethics on educational supervision and is protected by regulations of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) as well. As such, sharing this information with individuals outside of the educational context is not permitted. Violations of confidentiality could result in actions taken according to the policies and procedure for review of academic performance located in sections 3.0, 3.1, and 3.2 of the Standards for Social Work Education.

CLASS RECORDINGS. Class recordings are reserved only for students in this class for educational purposes and are protected under FERPA. The recordings should not be shared outside the class in any form. Violation of this restriction by a student could lead to Student Misconduct proceedings.

USE OF E-MAIL FOR OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE TO STUDENTS. Email is recognized as an official mode of university correspondence; therefore, students are responsible for reading their email for university and course-related information and announcements. Students are responsible for keeping the university informed about a change of e-mail address. Students should check their e-mail regularly and frequently—daily, but at minimum twice a week—to stay current with university-related communications, some of which may be time-sensitive. Students can find UT Austin's policies and instructions for updating their e-mail address at http://www.utexas.edu/its/policies/emailnotify.php.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS. By UT Austin policy, students must notify the professor of a pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If the student must miss a class, examination, work assignment, or project in order to observe a religious holy day, the professor will give the student an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

TITLE IX REPORTING. In accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the University of Texas at Austin is committed to maintaining a learning environment that is free from discriminatory conduct on the basis of sex https://titleix.utexas.edu/. Faculty, field instructors, staff, and/or teaching assistants in their supervisory roles are mandated reporters of incidents of sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, stalking, dating violence, or any other forms of sexual misconduct. Students who report such incidents will be informed of University resources. Incidents will be reported to the University's Title IX Coordinator. Further information, including student resources related to Title IX, may also be found at https://titleix.utexas.edu/.

CAMPUS CARRY POLICY. The University's policy on concealed firearms may be found here: https://campuscarry.utexas.edu. You also may find this information by accessing the Quick Links menu on the School's website.

SAFETY. As part of professional social work education, students may have assignments that involve working in agency settings and/or the community. As such, these assignments may present some risks. Sound choices and caution may lower risks inherent to the profession. It is the student's responsibility to

be aware of and adhere to policies and practices related to agency and/or community safety. Students should notify the professor regarding any safety concerns.

BEHAVIOR CONCERNS ADVICE LINE (BCAL). If students have concerns about their behavioral health, or if they are concerned about the behavioral health of someone else, students may use the Behavior Concerns Advice Line to discuss by phone their concerns. This service is provided through a partnership between the Office of the Dean of Students, the Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC), the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and The University of Texas Police Department (UTPD). Call 512-232-5050 or visit http://www.utexas.edu/safety/bcal.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION POLICY. Occupants of buildings on the UT Austin campus are required to evacuate and assemble outside when a fire alarm is activated or an announcement is made. Please be aware of the following policies regarding evacuation:

- Familiarize yourself with all exit doors in the classroom and the building. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when entering the building.
- · If you require assistance to evacuate, inform the professor in writing during the first week of class.
- · In the event of an evacuation, follow the professor's instructions.
- Do not re-enter a building unless you are given instructions by the Austin Fire Department, the UT Austin Police Department, or the Fire Prevention Services office.

COVID CAVEATS. To help keep everyone at UT and in our community safe, it is critical that students report COVID-19 symptoms and testing, regardless of test results, to University Health Services, and faculty and staff report to the HealthPoint Occupational Health Program (OHP) as soon as possible. Please see this link to understand what needs to be reported. In addition, to help understand what to do if a fellow student in the class (or the instructor or TA) tests positive for COVID, see this University Health Services link.

IX. COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Assignment Due (Every Wednesday by 11:59pm)	Readings, etc.
08/27	Lesson 1: Introduction	Due 09/02: Privilege Pie	LectureSyllabus
		Getting to Know you	 10 Principles of Disability Justice Intersectionality (K.
		Group Agreement	Crenshaw) video
		Canvas Discussion	 Sexuality and Disability (G. Lea) video
			• <u>"Special needs" is an</u>
			<u>ineffective</u>
			<u>euphemism</u>
			 APA Language

09/03	Lesson 1: Introduction to Crip Theory	Due: 09/09 Slack discussion Canvas Discussion *Grad Student Canvas Discussion Reflection Product	 Clare, E. Excerpt on Privilege Disability Justice Lecture Disability (Keywords to Disability Studies) pp. 5-11 Crip (Keywords to Disability Studies) pp.46-48 McRuer, R. (2010). Disabling sex McRuer, R. (2016) What is crip theory? video
09/10	Lesson 2: History	Due 09/16 Slack Discussion Canvas Discussion *Grad Student Canvas Discussion	 Lecture McWhorter, L. (2009). Two great dangers. McWhorter, L. (2009). Managing evolution.
09/17	Lesson 2: History	Due 09/23 Slack Discussion Canvas Discussion Reflection product	 Lecture Genetics, eugenics, ethics video Buck vs. Bell video Black Stork: Eugenics timeline Whatcott, J. (2017). Sexual deviance
09/24	Lesson 3: Moving into the Present	Due 09/30 Slack discussion Canvas Discussion *Grad Student Canvas Discussion	LectureCrip Camp
10/01	Lesson 3: Sex and Disability at Crip Camp	Due 10/07 Slack Discussion	LectureCrip Campconversation #4

		1	Т
		Canvas Discussion	
		Reflection product	
10/08	Lesson 4: Sex Education	Due 10/14 Slack discussion Canvas Discussion *Grad Student Canvas Discussion	 Lecture Marrone, K. (2016). The importance of expanding sex-ed McMahon, C. (2018). Sex education is for everyone. SEICUS Gill, M. (2015). Pleasure principles
10/15	Lesson 4: #MeToo	Due 10/21 Slack Discussion	 Lecture NPR: The sexual assault no on talks about (podcast)
		Canvas Discussion	 #DisabilityToo video Flores, E. (2018). The.
		Reflection product	#MeToo Movement hasn't been inclusive
10/22	Losson E. It Still Hannons	Due 10/28	a Lastura
10/22	Lesson 5: It Still Happens	Slack discussion	 Lecture Kafer, A. (2013). At the same time, out of time
		Canvas Discussion *Grad Student	• Gill, M. (2015). Reproductive
		Canvas Discussion	intrusions
10/29	Lesson 5: Caregivers/Partners	Due 11/04 Slack Discussion	 Lecture Blake, M. (2019). Here's what Dr. Phil got wrong
		Canvas Discussion	Dorwart, L. (2019). These misconceptions
		Reflection product	about • Squirmy and Grubs (video)
11/05	Lesson 6: Outside of Western Thought	Due 11/11	LectureGhosh, N. (2019).
		Slack Discussion Canvas Discussion	 Fashioning selves Msekele, S. (2019). Being disabled, Black
		*Grad Student Canvas Discussion	and queer Thao, X & Huan, Q. (2019). Surviving on the margins

11/12 And 11/19	Lesson 7: Sins Invalid and Disability Justice	Due 11/25 Slack discussion Canvas Discussion *Grad Student Canvas Discussion	 United Nations Population Fund video Lecture Sins Invalid (film) Sins Invalid discussion guide
11/26	No Class Final	Reflection product Due 12/10: final	Take a break.
12/03	Finai	reflection product	

X. BIBLIOGRAPHY (not complete)

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- Zhao, X. & Huan, Q. (2019). Surviving on the margins of society in China. In P. Chappell and M. der Beer (Eds.), *Diverse Voices of disabled sexuality in the Global South* (pp. 221-223), Palgrave Macmillan.