MA and Advanced Certificate in Disability Studies
Mariette Bates
Academic Director

• Began in the field in 1974

• Was Program Director at One to One Foundation, funding community programs in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut

• Co-founded a nonprofit agency to work on systems change advocacy, from 1983 – 2008

• Worked with parents and self advocates to develop services and organizations

• Has taught courses in disability at CUNY since 1993
Lisa Pollich
Assistant Director

- Is the Assistant Director of the Disability Studies program at the CUNY School of Professional Studies.
- Has worked at the City University of New York (CUNY) for 17 years.
- Has 8 years of experience in disability services in higher education.
- Directed a CUNY-wide project to improve and expand services and supports for college students on the autism spectrum.
- Is one of the instructors of the Research Methods course in the MA Disability Studies program.
- Earned a PhD in Medical Sociology and Disability
About the CUNY School of Professional Studies

- Part of the CUNY Graduate School and University Center
- Began in 2003
- Accredited by Middle States Commission on Higher Education
About the CUNY School of Professional Studies

- Home to **13 Master’s Degrees**, **12 Bachelor’s Degrees**, **3 Dual Degrees**, and **16 Certificate and Advanced Certificate programs**

- **Over 3,000 students** are enrolled in degree programs

- Offers Financial Aid and Career Services
Our Faculty

• 60% of our faculty have disabilities, or are parents or siblings of people with disabilities.

• Experienced CUNY faculty.

• Expert practitioners who work in the field.

• All are skilled at teaching and are committed to student success.
MA in Disability Studies

• The first stand-alone program in the country.

• One of the top three disability studies programs in the country.

• Targeted to human service workers, advocates, researchers, and people with disabilities.
Why Should I Enroll?

• Many students work in a service organization and love their work, but need an MA degree for more opportunity and advancement.

• Some students work for a governmental entity and want to learn more about how disability and public policy overlap.

• Some students already have an MSW or another graduate degree, but want to deepen their understanding of disability.

• Some students have disabilities and want to explore their own experience while pursuing a graduate degree to expand future opportunities.
Our MA Students

- Are mid-level or upper-level administrators at agencies serving people with a variety of disabilities.

- Work at hospitals and other health related settings.

- Work in government at policy-making levels.

- Have disabilities themselves or are parents of people with disabilities.
MA in Disability Studies

- We use a ‘person-centered’ approach to disability.

- We use a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approach, drawing on the law, medicine, the humanities and social sciences.

- Classes are offered both online and in traditional face to face format.

- Graduate Certificate available.
Our Curriculum

• The MA requires **ten** courses:

• **Six required courses**, one of which is the Capstone

• **Four elective courses**.

• The last course is a Capstone course that integrates what students have learned in the program. Students can choose to prepare a research paper or develop an ePortfolio.
Advanced Certificate in Disability Studies

• The Advanced Certificate requires **four** courses:

  • **Two required** courses
  • (DSAB 601 & DSAB 602)

  • Any **two elective** courses

  • Same courses as MA program
Advanced Certificate in Disability Studies

• Courses that are completed with a grade of B or better are eligible for transfer into the MA in Disability Studies program.

• Students who wish to transfer credits from the Advanced Certificate must complete a separate application to the MA program.
Required Courses

• Psychosocial, Cultural and Political Aspects of Disability

• Embodiment and Disability

• Disability Law and Policy

• Disability and Diversity

• Research Methods

• Capstone Course
Electives

- Disability and the Family Life Cycle
- Disability in Mass Media
- Disability and Narrative
- Disability Studies in Education
- Disability Service Administration
- Disability in History
Electives

• Aging and Disability
• Disability Studies in Higher Education
• Disability and the Health Professions
• Disability Studies and the Humanities
• Independent Study
• Fieldwork in Disability Studies
Special Topics Courses

- The Recovery Model and Chronic Mental Illness
- Reel to Real: Psychiatry at the Cinema
- War and Disability
- Representations of Disability in Film
- Disability and Advocacy
- Willowbrook State School
Frequently Asked Questions

• Can I really earn my MA degree online?
  • Yes, you can earn either the Advanced Certificate or the MA completely online.

• What if I prefer to study in a classroom?
  • Students can complete both programs entirely in person.

• How long will it take to get my degree?
  • It depends on how many courses you take each semester. Most students take one or two courses. We do not recommend taking more.
Frequently Asked Questions

• Do you accept courses from other master’s programs?
  • We will look at courses on a case by case basis. We would need the syllabus from courses in order to determine if we can transfer credits.

• Are there scholarships?
  • Yes, we do have limited scholarship funds available.

• Do you provide accommodations for students with disabilities?
  • Yes, we provide accommodations for students with documented disabilities.
Useful Contacts:

• **Admissions:** Lucas Sifuentes
  admissions@sps.cuny.edu
  212-652-CUNY

• **Financial Aid:** Felix Huertas:
  financialaid@sps.cuny.edu
  646-664-8536
For More Information

• Call: 212-652-2869

Visit: https://sps.cuny.edu/disability-studies-programs

Contact the Disability Studies Program:

• Lisa Pollich, Assistant Director:
  Phone: 646-664-8581
  Email: Lisa.Pollich@cuny.edu

• Mariette Bates, Academic Director:
  Phone: 646-664-8580
  Email: Mariette.Bates@cuny.edu
Application Deadlines

• MA & Advanced Certificate Program – to start in Fall of 2018

Deadline is May 3, 2018.