Are you passionate about the participation and presence of people with dis/abilities in our schools, neighborhoods, workplaces, and in our lives?

Join us for:

Dis/Ability Studies Brunch and World Café

Friday, April 6, 2018
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Slobodkina Reading Room (SRR; near Hillyer)

We are aiming to gather a group of interested individuals to discuss content expertise and interest in developing a sustainable course on Dis/Ability Studies taught by a team of experts at the University of Hartford. Dis/Ability Studies examines the meaning, nature, and consequences of dis/ability as a social construct. This field takes a stance on how dis/ability is defined and represented in society. Challenged within this novel way of thinking is the association between an individual’s limitations and the need to ‘fix’ or ‘cure’ what is perceived within society as problems.

Dis/Ability Studies is a diverse field. Academic inquiry is informed by: history, sociology, literature, political science, law, policy studies, economics, cultural studies, anthropology, geography, philosophy, theology, gender studies, communications and media studies, architecture, and the arts. Beyond interdisciplinary focus, Dis/Ability Studies focuses on a diverse group of people with vastly different perspectives and experiences (e.g., deaf/blind, physical impairments, chronic pain, cognitive functioning, behavioral). Across this diversity exists the shared mission to extend professions oriented towards cure, prevention, and treatment to focus on what is often a marginalized perspective. Said simply, dis/ability is an important, though often overlooked, aspect of diversity, making our engagement a critical matter of social justice.

The aim of this brunch is the creation of a sustainable course offered at the University about dis/ability.

9:30 - 9:45 a.m. Welcome, introductions, purpose
9:45 - 10:45 a.m. Brunch and small group, rotating discussions (World Café) about:
  - How do you and/or your discipline engage with dis/ability?
  - What do you feel University of Hartford students need to know (or consider) regarding dis/ability?
10:45 - 11:45 a.m. Expected student outcomes, teaching approaches, and sustainable course formats.
11:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Recap with Action Plan

Feel free to invite a colleague, advocate, or friend who might be interested. Space is limited, so please RSVP your number of attendees to Kelly Anderson, ITR@hartford.edu.