

ENRH 175 Disability Awareness and Advocacy in Healthcare Course Description:

Course Director: *Whitney Stuard*

Faculty Sponsor: *(if non-faculty course director) Kim Barker*

Department: *Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*

Student Liaisons: *Caitlin Jarrard, Vanessa Ramirez, Dalia Mitchell*

Requirements:

- Minimum participants for course to be conducted: 5
- Maximum number of students per course (if applicable) N/A

Rationale:

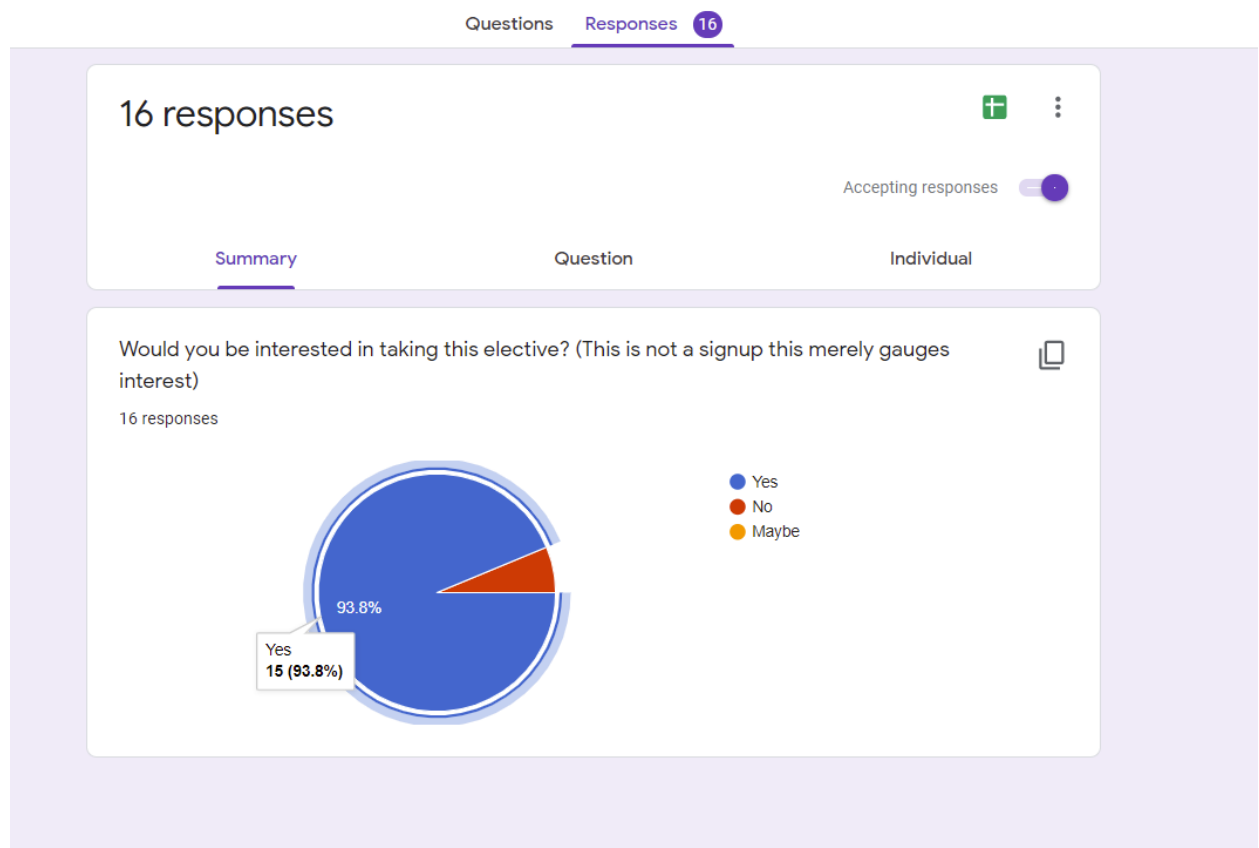
In 2013, 22.2% of adults in the United States reported a disability. This is especially concerning since the prevalence of a disability increases with age. The American with Disabilities Act (ADA) defines a disability as “a mental and/or physical impairment that has an effect on the individual’s ability to carry out major life activities”. Those with disabilities are four times more likely to report poor or fair health and less likely to receive health care and screening compared to their non-disabled counterparts. Additionally, minorities who have a disability are faced with an even larger burden of health disparities.

A report generated on the AAMC Curriculum Inventory and Report (CIR) from 2015-2016 demonstrated that many medical schools did not explicitly address disabilities in their curriculum. A meta-analysis conducted by the Association of Academic Physiatrists indicates that the current medical education system does not adequately train students to provide care for people with disabilities. Studies also show that medical and health professions students and physicians may harbor negative attitudes towards and/or be uncomfortable treating people with disabilities. A study of education about patients with disabilities (PWDs) showed that this education positively affected medical students' opinions and increased their knowledge about PWDs. The National Council on Disability Report (2009) stated that one of the largest barriers to care for those with disabilities is the lack of training on the topic among healthcare professionals. Therefore, this elective is designed to help provide this imperative education about PWDs.

The goal of this elective is to advance curricular efforts about disability at UTSW, support and create a welcoming environment for students with disabilities, educate others about individuals with disabilities, and create community amongst people who care about disability advocacy. Having this elective on campus will fill a gap in our

medical training in teaching us how to treat our patients with disabilities, as well as help educate our current students on disabilities to promote diversity and inclusion.

We recently performed a survey of UT Southwestern students who would be eligible to take the elective this fall and received positive feedback with 16 students stating they were interested. Results are attached in Figure 1.



Objectives:

At the end of this course, students will be able have learned the following:

- Learn about different types of disabilities and be trained in proper disability etiquette
- Learn about the American with Disabilities Act and how it applies to us as a future physician and the requirements of reasonable accommodations
- Understand how chronic illness and invisible illness intersect with disability and some general perspectives and challenges faced by those with chronic and invisible illnesses
- Understand the basics and history of disability advocacy
- Be able to identify a patient with a disability and implement steps to best understand and serve these patients in the healthcare setting
- Demonstrate effective communication and teamwork skills to support those with disabilities
- Learn about different disabilities that arise from chronic health problems

Format:

12 one hour's classes will be conducted virtually to permit disability experts from across the country to give talks for this elective, and 8 of these sessions will have interactive components, incorporating discussions and patient cases. This class will be conducted through Whitney Stuard's licensed Zoom account. No funding is needed or will be requested for this elective.

Student Evaluation:

Grades will be pass/fail. Attendance is required to receive credit for the course.

Course Evaluation:

Grading will be pass/fail. To receive transcript acknowledgment, students must:

- attend 10 of 12 participant hours
- complete the online REDCap course evaluation form

Schedule:

Class	Topic	Format	Potential Speakers
1	Disability Etiquette and Awareness Training	One hour Presentation	Taccetta@mopd.nyc.gv
3	Substance Use Disorder	30 minute presentation, 30 min interactive case discussion	Dell medical Schools B team
2	The ADA and how it applies to you	One hour Presentation	Sean Jackson, Jessica Mantel, or Lex Frieden
4	Cognitive Disabilities	30 minute presentation, 30 min interactive case discussion	
5	Ambulatory Disabilities - disability in exercise	30 minute presentation, 30 min interactive case discussion	Navigate Life Texas, Danielle rivera
6	Hearing Disabilities	30 minute presentation, 30 min interactive case discussion	Dr. Moreland, the Texas Association of the Deaf
7	Visual Disabilities	30 minute presentation, 30 min interactive case discussion	Texas Lighthouse for the Blind
8	Invisible Illness/Chronic Illness as Disability	30 minute presentation, 30 min interactive case discussion	Dalia Mitchell
9	Health Disparities and disabilities	30 minute presentation, 30 min interactive case discussion	Laura VanPuymbrouck
10	Disability Law 101: Reasonable Accommodations	One hour Presentation	Dr. Lisa Iezzoni

11	Disability and Advocacy	30 minute presentation, 30 min interactive advocacy idea discussion	Nathaniel Gleason, Dr. Meeks, Dr Jan Brunstrom-Hernandez
12	Screening of Crip Camp	Movie	N/A

The speakers at this time are still being finalized and the exact dates of each session will be updated as soon as possible. We plan to begin the class in mid-September and be once a week. If it is possible with the speaker's schedules, we will plan for Tuesdays from 5-6pm.