

**Carleton University**  
**Department of Sociology and Anthropology**

**Sociology 3060/ DBST 3060**  
**Fall 2022**  
**Critical Disability Studies**

**Instructor:** Kelly Fritsch

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**Course Schedule:** Monday 11:35-2:25 pm

**Method of Delivery:** In person

**Course Description:** Drawing on contemporary disability theory, culture, and activism, this course engages bodily difference and variation to consider competing definitions, conceptions, and relations of disability, madness, neurodivergence, chronic illness, and health and wellness. Taking up critical academic scholarship as well as cultural and activist contributions, we will investigate the workings of power and social control, access and accessibility, norms and normalization, ableism, sanism, and medicalization, as well as explore crip, mad, neurodivergent and other disabled identity formation, art and culture, and political agency. We will approach disability not as a fixed or singular category but rather as a shifting culturally specific formation that is entangled with categories such as race, class, gender, sexuality, nation, and citizenship. Students in this course will gain an understanding of the current debates, concepts, theories, and methodologies within the field of critical disability studies. Together we will work to disrupt contemporary ableist relations of disability and raise questions about the limitations, contradictions, and directions of future research and for disability justice.