Disability studies is an academic disciplinary area offered as a field of study at numerous institutions in the country at the minor, major, masters, and certificate levels. Disability studies programs are encoded in the federal Classification of Industrial Programs (CIP 05.0210) taxonomy, and defined as follows (source):

A program that focuses on the nature, meaning, and consequences of what it is to be defined as disabled and explores the historical, cultural, economic, physiological, and socio-political dynamics of disability. Includes instruction in disability rights, legal issues, and public policy; literature, philosophy, and the arts; and/or research in the social sciences, education, and health sciences addressing social and experiential aspects of disability (source: NCES).