This course is geared toward advanced undergraduates and graduate students from a wide range of fields. Rooted in activism, this course will prepare students to effectively utilize methodologies and frameworks rooted in disability justice while doing place-based public history work. The intersectional nature of disability justice will push students to reflect on the numerous ways other forms of identity, including race, class, gender, and sexual orientation, intersect with and have been classified as disabilities. The class is organized as a workshop where students will explore case studies of American buildings and landscapes, emphasizing strategies for increasing public awareness, understanding disability histories, promoting disability justice, and expanding access to heritage sites. The class is grounded in scholarly and activist perspectives on disability justice connected with various aspects of place-based public history, including historic preservation, archival practices, community-engaged work, and exhibition design. Writing prompts, reviews of readings, and proposals for documenting and interpreting selected sites constitute the core of class activities. The class will emphasize sites in each partner campus's vicinity, recognizing that other locations may be more appropriate sites for student projects. The course will be conducted in partnership with faculty and students at the University of Minnesota, the University of Oregon-Portland, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The course will be synchronous, meeting Thursdays 4:00-6:30pm CST.

For more information, please contact:
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