



# Professional Enrichment Course

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Office of Medical Education

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## Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI)-Minded for Disability

<b>Enrollment Period:</b>	Summer 2025
<b>Course Dates:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday 5/19/25</li> <li>• Monday 6/2/25</li> <li>• Monday 6/9/25</li> <li>• Monday 6/16/25</li> <li>• Monday 6/23/25</li> </ul> <p>** All courses will start at 5:00 pm</p>
<b>Student Max:</b>	20
<b>Class Year:</b>	MS 1/2/3/4
<b>Course Director:</b>	<p>Dr. Max Hurwitz          Assistant Professor, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine          UPMC Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation          Email: <a href="mailto:hurwitzmb2@upmc.edu">hurwitzmb2@upmc.edu</a></p>
<b>Course Administrator:</b>	<p>Wendell Robinson          GME Senior Department Manager          UPMC Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation          Email: <a href="mailto:robinsonwt2@upmc.edu">robinsonwt2@upmc.edu</a></p>
<b>Location:</b>	
<b>Registration:</b>	Via Amp Up – The registration open date will be announced via email.
<b>Course Description:</b>	<p>A growing number of Americans are living with disabilities and often have complex needs requiring high-quality healthcare. People with disabilities experience significant healthcare disparities, including inequitable access primary care, specialty care, and to prescriptions, and overall have higher rates of unmet healthcare needs. A lack of disability content in medical education leads to poor clinical competency as well as negative bias toward patients with disabilities.</p> <p>This disability medicine Professional Enrichment Course will provide exposure to the unique challenges and needs of people with disabilities. This educational experience will not be focused on specific diseases and their treatments but on the disability experience and how clinicians can serve people with disabilities in an affirming, anti-ableist way.</p>

	<p>This will be an immersive educational experience with a multimodal approach, including self-assessments, readings, educational videos, small group discussions, and engagement with community members with disabilities. Discussions will be led by senior medical students, PM&amp;R residents, PM&amp;R faculty, and community members with disabilities.</p> <p>Evaluation will be based on pre-and post-course knowledge and attitude self-assessment surveys and students' participation in course sessions, including small group discussions.</p>
<b>Objectives:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Understand health policy concerning people with disabilities and apply this knowledge to current and historical events.</li> <li>2. Identify barriers faced by people with disabilities in the community, including structural, institutional, legal, medical, social, and employment.</li> <li>3. Define models of disability- including social and medical- and identify the implications of each.</li> <li>4. Gain an understanding of personal identity related to disability status.</li> <li>5. Understand the importance of inclusion of people with disabilities in the community, workplace, and in medical education.</li> <li>6. Identify social injustice in current and historical events and develop strategies to prevent such occurrences.</li> <li>7. Understand the importance of advocacy as a citizen and a physician and develop advocacy skills pertinent to the disability community.</li> <li>8. Understand the difference between equity and equality and the implications for people with disabilities.</li> <li>9. Define health and healthcare disparities and identify examples for people with disabilities.</li> </ol>
<b>Pre-Requisites:</b>	None
<b>Requirements:</b>	Attendance to all course sessions
<b>Texts:</b>	None

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Session One: Monday, May 19, 2025**

**History of Disability/Disability Health Policy:** We will discuss historical perspectives and contexts on disability. Students will gain an understanding of current laws, such as the ADA, Section 504, and IDEA.

**Session Two: Monday, June 2, 2025**

**Disability Culture and Identity:** We will define different societal models of disability and learn about personal identity as it relates to disability and intersectional identities. We will discuss the importance of

disability culture and its influence on modern culture, using examples from arts, music, media, and adaptive sports.

**Session Three: Monday, June 9, 2025**

**Misconceptions and Discrimination:** People with disabilities face many barriers in the community and in health care. We will discuss common misconceptions related to disability, ableism, medical ethics, and social injustices faced by people with disabilities.

**Session Four: Monday, June 16, 2025**

**Healthcare Disparities:** People with disabilities experience significant health disparities in both outcomes and access to care, and many patients have traumatic interactions with the healthcare system. We will discuss health and healthcare disparities, medical trauma, and trauma-informed care related to patients with disabilities.

**Session Five: Monday, June 23, 2025**

**Advocacy Workshop:** We will discuss alliance building with patients with disabilities and the significance of both physician-led advocacy and patient self-advocacy. Students will develop ideas for advocacy initiatives that can be employed in the community, medical school, or hospital system.