

WELF 3021 DISABILITY RIGHTS, POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

Credit Points 10

Legacy Code 102849

Coordinator Denise Beckwith ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Denise Beckwith/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Denise%20Beckwith/))

Description Since the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, laws, policy and service supports concerning persons with disability have transformed. This has resulted in significant reforms in Australia and globally. Disability rights have now become central to addressing long standing inequalities and discrimination experienced by persons with disability. Disability rights now also govern social services, supports and programs. This subject examines these developments with the global ratification of disability rights and critically evaluates the ensuing policies and practices that frame the context within which professional practice and expertise occurs. Drawing upon in-depth case studies, students will critically examine and engage in key issues surrounding the translation and realisation of disability rights in governance of social service systems, policy and practices.

School Social Sciences

Discipline Care for the Disabled

Student Contribution Band HECS Band 4 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees (https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/) page.

Level Undergraduate Level 3 subject

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Examine international disability rights norms and their impact on national and state policy and governance.
2. Evaluate key international and national governance and policy issues for the realisation of disability rights in everyday life.
3. Apply critical analytical frameworks to disability rights to professional practice to foster learning and improvement.
4. Assess contemporary developments in disability policy impact the practices in professional service environments and practices.

Subject Content

1. Disability rights frameworks - historical through to most recent (international conventions, declarations, global governance institutions - WB, UN, ILO, OECD etc).
2. National and international responses to disability rights (legislation, policy and service provision).
3. In-depth case study examples from Australia, UK, EU and the Global South (Peru, South Africa, Sri Lanka) to illustrate legislative reforms with the ratification of disability rights.
4. The role of disability activists and advocates in driving social change for the realisation of the disability rights (boomerang activism, national activism, online activism).

Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

Type	Length	Percent	Threshold	Individual/ Group Task	Mandatory
Quiz	10 multiple choice questions	10	N	Individual	Y
Critical Review	1,200 words	30	N	Individual	Y
Presentation	10 minutes	30	N	Group	Y
Case Study	800 words	30	N	Individual	Y

Teaching Periods

Autumn (2025)

Parramatta - Victoria Rd

On-site

Subject Contact Denise Beckwith ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Denise Beckwith/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Denise%20Beckwith/))

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=WELF3021_25-AUT_PS_1#subjects)