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Reflection for Critical Disability Studies: Theories and Practice

Course Materials:

My first-year writing seminar provided me with some background knowledge for a lot of the issues we’ve discussed in class, but there were still a lot that I’m not familiar with. The first obstacle I reached was reading *A Disability History of United States*. Since I don’t have much knowledge about the history of the United States, it was a little hard for me to connect the major events about disability with major events happened in the United States. Getting through that book really helped me to learn more about the history of the United States as well.

I’m glad that I was able to learn about deaf culture, neurodiversity, and the disability history in more details this semester. I realized there were way more issues that need to think about and I’ve already started my conversation on disability theories with my parents and friends who have never heard about it.

I guess the major thought that I changed during this course was my opinions with the legitimacy of Infanticide. I remembered that during my first-year writing seminar, I did find infanticide reasonable in places with extreme poor conditions, because that is exactly what have happened in the history of China. But after reading the blog on Neurodiversity and Good Kings Bad Kings again this semester, I realized that the past 12-years of my education in China have taught me not to question the “system”, but some times, it’s exactly the “system” that has major problems.

CCW:

Even though the weather was not always optimum, I have really enjoyed the collaboration with the CCW folks this semester. I was indeed a little bit anxious before working with the CCW artists because of lack of experience, but the CCW folks were definitely one of the warmest crews I’ve encountered. The CCW artists have inspired me with more interesting ideas on the creation of arts and photography during the course of this semester. I think this has also been a cool experience for me to learn to teach photography. The collaboration with the artists with intellectual disability evoked a lot of thinking about what counts as art and aesthetics, and does the intellectual capacity of the artists affect the value of the art works? I am still struggling with these questions and would love to look more into them in the future. Also, I am really looking forward to the final photo book!

Overall, I am so glad that I took this course this semester. It had added so much fun to my course of study and I would definitely recommend this course to others in the Tri-Co Community!