

We're #1

UT's disability studies is the first program of its kind

By Ashley King
Staff Reporter

Disability awareness is about to become much more prominent than the blue-and-white signs. Beginning this fall semester, the University of Toledo will be the first educational institution in the country to offer a major

in disability studies.

Tim Harrington, the executive director of the local Ability Center of Greater Toledo said, "It's just like Africana studies or women's studies. People with disabilities now have a curriculum to turn to that speaks to their issues."

The new program's Web page says disability studies helps students "understand the full spectrum of human

variation, challenging the barriers which may prevent disabled people from participating fully in their communities by promoting the ideals of inclusion, independent living and community integration."

While the minor has been around since 2002, creating an undergraduate disability studies major remained in planning for over a decade,

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