This course will focus on the disabled body in nineteenth century Iberian cultural production. Who was considered disabled and what were the consequences of being discriminated as such? We will study medicine treatises, fiction, paintings, essays, military portraits and pamphlets to see the entanglements of race, nation, masculinity, the poor and the marginalized at that time. We will see how masculinity was idealized and projected the notion of a strong Spanish Empire throughout the world. Of particular interest will be the study of military masculinity, disabled male bodies (“useless men”), racial dynamics and discrimination. In addition, we will pay attention to the disabled poor, whose body was considered “useless” for modernity. We will examine politics of discrimination against the vagrants’, the poor’s and the prostitutes’ bodies, which the political power was trying dispose of. This course will also include a profound analysis of the main scholarship in disabilities studies in academia. Fall, 3 credits, ABCF grading.