This class has been a really exciting part of my semester. I was really looking forward to taking my first official disability studies course and was really pleased with all the resources, people, and things I have learned this semester. I strongly believe I am going to continue to use some of these resources as I continue forward at Bryn Mawr and into whatever is to come after. I was crafting my independent major during this semester and this course was definitely a big role in my decisions to go forward with my major of choice. I have already been able to make some really interesting projects involving dance and disability studies and have used resources from this class and my dance classes to inform one another. Like for my midterm I was able to write about community dance using resources from this course of which I expanded on in my final project. In my final project I used some resources from my Approaches to Dance class that was also looking at disability dance. I also centered disability and dance in a project in that class. It was so helpful to be having large and small group discussions in this class to be able to really expand and look deeper at the resources we were looking at. The tenets of disability justice were really notable in my time in this class, ever since we discussed them in class I have kept them open in a tab on my computer to refer back to in other classes and just in general as I am fascinated by disability justice as a practice. Some other areas in the class that have really informed my knowledge of disability and disability world have been some of the history we focused on at the beginning of the semester. Learning about the bell curve, statistics, eugenics, freak shows, etc. was really important for me to know going into the rest of the semester and in general because so much of this history is stuff that I was never taught or was justified by anti disabled education that is constantly prevalent in schooling. Another aspect of this that I mentioned in my midterm project is about how the concept of disability came into existence and the things that used to be encapsulated under the umbrella term of disability including things like criminality. Another aspect of the semester I loved was our time with CCW and getting to know Mary Bevlock and her art. It was such a nice end of the class to have the exhibit open and get to see it with all the artists there. Of course Covid came into play a lot this semester which was nerve wracking and also ended up with me getting Covid which made me all the more grateful for the accessibility practices our class constantly had in place like zoom. These accessibility practices were also something that we focus a lot on in the CCW exhibit and I was really appreciative of this in an art lens because it got me thinking about the ways I can use these practices in dance that I create and to challenge ways dance has been traditionally presented which is rarely very accessible for a multitude of reasons. I was so so grateful for this class and its community and hope to continue to use the resources and knowledge I have gained in endeavors to come.

The picture below is a more visual mind map version of me thinking through the semester and this reflection. :)