Embedding Accessibility in Course Development

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Recommended Citation
Judkins, Gabriel and Suba, Rex, "Embedding Accessibility in Course Development" (2019). UNLV Best Teaching Practices Expo. 64.
https://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/btp_expo/64

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Embedding Accessibility in Course Development

Accessibility as Practice
- Allows all to independently
  - acquire the same information
  - engage in the same interactions
  - enjoy the same services
  - within the same time frame with equivalent ease of use
- Requires **proactive approaches** to course development with **universal design** to benefit the most people

Barriers to Success Surmounted Step-by-Step
UNLV follows NSHE policies to provide persons with disabilities opportunities.
- Assistive technologies and thoughtful, simple pedagogical structures
  - Screen reader/braille display
  - Text enabled displays/captions
  - Keyboard/voice/eye-tracking
  - Navigation and linear flow

How can my course work with assistive technologies to support my UNLV students?
- Alt Text descriptions of all images, enabling screen reading programs
- Selection ppt ordering of slide content for logical flow
- Accessible pdf slides
- High contrast/colors
- Ordered headers
- Links with hidden web addresses
- Tables for tabular data, not formatting

Office of Accessibility Resources
- Colors distinguishing different subway lines is unhelpful to those color blind

Accessibility Resources Team provides oversight and support to help ensure the accessibility of Information and Communication Technologies at UNLV and promotes equal access for all

Our legal obligations:
- **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)**
- **Sec 504 Vocational Rehabilitation Act**
- **Sec 255 Telecommunications Act 1996**
- **NSHE policy defining accessibility**

Online Accessibility Resources
- **W3C Web Accessibility Initiative**
  - Protocols and standards (WCAG 2.0)
  - Disabilities descriptions and info
- **WebAIM**
  - Training and technical support with detailed content by Utah State University

Training and Workshops
- Office of Accessibility Resources provides
  - Structured training opportunities
  - Workshops on focused topics
  - Open labs with one-on-one support
- The Accessibility Resources Team can train academic and administrative departments on request

UNLV Faculty Training
- **Foundations of Accessibility (required)**
- **Accessibility in Canvas**
- **Accessible PowerPoints**
- **Accessible PDFs**
- **Accessible tables**
- **Complex Description**
- **POUR Design (big-picture accessibility)**

Direct Faculty Support
- Drop-in lab assistance available (CBC C145, Wed/Thurs)

Quality and accessible course development is a collaborative process, reach out to the accessibility team and those faculty already engaged with the work.

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