**Recognizing Key Elements of Instructional Design**

**Why Increase the Usability of Your Course Content**

ACCESSIBILITY AND UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING

Both Digital Accessibility and Universal Design for Learning (UDL) focus on inclusive educational practices. Ensuring all students (including those with disabilities) have access to content, while providing multiple options to acquire information are key to student success.

According to the [Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008](https://www2.ed.gov/policy/highered/leg/hea08/index.html) (HEOA), UDL:

1. provides flexibility in the ways information is presented, in the ways students respond or demonstrate knowledge and skills, and in the ways students are engaged; and
2. reduces barriers in instruction, provides appropriate accommodations, supports, and challenges, and maintains high achievement expectations for all students, including students with disabilities and students who are limited English proficient.

Credit: Grand valley State University website(eLearning technologies)

**Recommended Readings and Viewings**

Overview of instructional design models. (n.d.). Retrieved December 31, 2021, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Buz-cFIB-c0>

*Udl & accessibility checklist | universal design for learning*. (n.d.). Retrieved December 30, 2021, from <https://www.uky.edu/udl/udl-accessibility-checklist>

Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching. Retrieved December 31, 2021, from <https://www.celt.iastate.edu/teaching/effective-teaching-practices/accessify-your-course/10-tips-for-creating-accessible-course-content/>

**Discussion Questions**

How much does the presentation of your learning content tool capture the larger recommendations of the concrete checklist (<http://www.cuny.edu/accessibility/content/videos/#captioning_guidelines>)? Share a teaching experience or idea that can be adapted or developed to reflect the design concepts discussed?

**Further Readings and Viewings**

Why we need universal design | Michael Nesmith | tedxboulder. (n.d.). Retrieved December 31, 2021, from [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bVdPNWMGyZY10 tips for creating accessible course content. (n.d.).](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bVdPNWMGyZY10%20tips%20for%20creating%20accessible%20course%20content.%20(n.d.).)

Guides overview | university it. (n.d.). Retrieved December 31, 2021, from <https://uit.stanford.edu/accessibility/guides>

Fadel L.M., Kuntz V.H., Ulbricht V.R., Batista C.R. (2016) Information and Universal Design in Online Courses. In: Marcus A. (eds) Design, User Experience, and Usability: Novel User Experiences. DUXU 2016. Lecture Notes in Computer Science, vol 9747. Springer, Cham. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-40355-7_16>

**Resource List**

CUNY IT Accessibility website: <http://www2.cuny.edu/accessibility/>

<http://www.cuny.edu/accessibility/content/videos/#video_captioning_tools>

<http://www.cuny.edu/accessibility/content/videos/#captioning_guidelines>

CUNY Assistive Technology Services: <http://cats.cuny.edu/>

Universal Design for Learning: <http://www.udlcenter.org/>

Tutorials: <http://accessproject.colostate.edu/udl/>

CUNY. Is quick links. (n.d.). *Help*. Retrieved December 30, 2021, from <https://help.commons.gc.cuny.edu/cuny-url-shortener/>

Make your content accessible to everyone with the Accessibility Checker. (n.d.). Retrieved December 31, 2021, from <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/make-your-content-accessible-to-everyone-with-the-accessibility-checker-38059c2d-45ef-4830-9797-618f0e96f3ab>

Guides overview | university it. (n.d.). Retrieved December 30, 2021, from <https://uit.stanford.edu/accessibility/guides>