Promoting Inclusive & Accessible Learning Environments

Angela Sebald - Media Access Specialist, RCPD
Nate Evans - Manager, MSU IT & Innovation Hub
Agenda

• Accessibility at MSU & Key Resources
• Introduction to the RCPD
• Receiving a VISA, “What should I say?”
• Syllabus Language
• VISA Case Studies
• Accessibility quick tips
“Tab to bag” a11y culture continuum
Where is MSU on this scale?
“Tab to bag” a11y culture continuum
Web Accessibility

Web accessibility is the inclusive practice of removing barriers which prevent access to information and functionalities on websites. An online document or tool is accessible when it can be easily understood and used by everyone, regardless of the browser or adaptive equipment he or she is using. This website provides a central place for web accessibility guidelines, tutorials, and services available to the MSU community.

At MSU, we serve a diverse audience that relies increasingly on the Internet for many aspects of life, including education, employment, commerce, research, health care, and recreation. In today’s society, it is essential that we provide equal access and opportunity to all our users, including those with disabilities. Accessible Design can diminish and even remove barriers to information and interaction critical to success for our faculty, staff, students, and the general public.
Accessibility Services

MSU IT can provide a course accessibility report using the D2L course inventory tool to help prioritize what course content should be evaluated and updated for accessibility and usability. This is a free service for faculty and instructors teaching credit courses in D2L.

Accessibility specialists will review courses using accessibility and universal design principles. The report and consultation will also identify and discuss assumptions that could be barriers to learning and help with simple changes.

Additionally, our staff can help with:

- Captioning support
- Faculty accessibility training
- Universal Design for Learning best practices

Request an accessibility consultation or review using the online form and someone will respond within two business days. Check out the MSU Web Accessibility site for more information on content quick tips and tutorials.
Order MediaSpace Captions

Use this form to purchase 99+% accurate captions for your MediaSpace videos.

Choose a Caption Partner

- Rev
  High quality captions for $1 / minute, satisfaction guaranteed. One day turnaround time for files 30 minutes or less.

Choose a Turnaround Time

- Standard - $1.00/minute
  Every 30 minutes of video adds one day of turnaround time. E.g., 30 minute video = one day turnaround, 90 minute video = three day turnaround. No option for expedited service.

Select Your Videos

- [ ] Select All

- [ ] BIG10 Alliance Deque Discussion
- [ ] Default Title
- [ ] Select Title
Typical Scenario

15 minute lecture
1 hour to correct inaccuracies
What is your time worth?
Typical Scenario

15 minute lecture
1 hour to correct inaccuracies

What is your time worth?

Rev.com’s cost =
Typical Scenario

15 minute lecture
1 hour to correct inaccuracies

What is your time worth?

Rev.com’s cost = $15
Welcome to week 1. It is important that you read Smith (2014) before attending class this week. Please review the other assignments due this week as well.

Discussions

3 post minimum - Point-Counterpoint-Reply Format. Analyze the three common tools used to analyze competitive intelligence and develop competitive advantage: The Five Forces model, generic strategies, and value chain analysis.
Course Inventory Tool for D2L

D2L Conversion Lab_user01

Content Item Totals

- Web Pages: 150
- Word Files: 5
- PDF Files: 11
- PowerPoint Files: 0
- Video Links: 0
- Quizzes: 0
- Dropboxes: 0
- Forums: 0
- Surveys: 0
- Links: 56
- Combined Total: 225

Elements Within Content

Un-scanned Items:
- images:
- Tables:
- Links:
- Video Objects:
- iframes (often videos):

Course Contents

Help Improve this course

Course Content Improvement

Test Content

PRACTICE
Introduction to the RCPD

- Provide *reasonable* accommodations to students and employees who are *qualified* individuals with disabilities
- Ensure individuals with disabilities have access to activities and services offered by MSU
- Do not discriminate against or harass an individual based on his/her disability

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jA-YN6M5j0o&list=PLo_vin70ehZtV7Ac9yHTwPcPWwZ66YfUF
Syllabus Language

Model Statement for Course Syllabi:

Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Accommodations for persons with disabilities, with documentation from the MSU Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities, may be requested by contacting [insert Professor name or "me"] at the start of the term and/or two weeks prior to the accommodation date (test, project, etc). Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.
Reasonable Accommodation Policy

- RCPD Specialist will review documentation.
- If documentation validates a disability, RCPD Specialist will determine which accommodations are reasonable and appropriate.
VISA

The VISA (Verified Individualized Services and Accommodations)

MSU’s official documentation that:
- Verifies the presence of a student’s disability
- Describes essential disability-related accommodations and services
- Provides introductory content about the RCPD and disabilities in general
Receiving a VISA

● Students are responsible for discussing accommodations needs.
● Students retain responsibility for initiating contact with faculty
● Best Practice Sheet
Case Studies

Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD)
Michigan State University
434 Farm Lane, #120
East Lansing, MI 48824-1032
(517) 884-RCPD (517) 335-1293 (TTY) (517) 432-3191 (fax)
http://www.rcpd.msu.edu

VERIFIED INDIVIDUALIZED SERVICES AND ACCOMMODATIONS (VISA)

VISA Reference Number: 12345678-123456
VISA Created On: 08/11/2016
VISA Valid Through: 12/21/2016

Sample VISA

The student named on this VISA form has undergone a needs assessment with the RCPD Disability Specialist(s) named above and was determined to have a disability requiring academic accommodations or services as listed. The services and accommodations were carefully weighed and determined after a thorough review of medical and other relevant documentation. Revisions to this VISA may occur by RCPD Disability Specialists pending additional information, changes in disability status, unique academic settings, or by periodic review. You may contact the Disability Specialist named above with questions or concerns regarding the provision of accommodations and services or visit the RCPD website. Information about disabilities and related services/ accommodations should be treated confidentially by university faculty and staff. Faculty must strictly adhere to the services and accommodations listed below with modifications made only after consultation with an RCPD Disability Specialist named on this form.

Reading
RFB&D Certified
Bookshare Certified
E-text Eligible
Large Print Eligible

Testing (ideally administered in or near the classroom under faculty supervision)
50% Extended Test Time for in-class and online exams excluding take-home and clinically-based health sciences exams which require advance planning and special consideration.

Classroom
Preferential Seating
Student May Audio Record Lectures
Access to electronic versions of overhead presentation materials
Modify/adapt/describe visual aspects of course materials (diagrams/images)
Faculty facilitated notetaking assistance by shared lecture notes or established partnership between students
Disability may require departure from class without penalty. If use of this accommodation becomes excessive or affects course integrity, please contact the student and specialist.
In rare circumstances, student may need extended time for assignments. Student will contact professor if needed to request an alternate deadline. If use of this accommodation becomes excessive or affects course integrity, please contact the student and specialist.

Mobility Aids
Cane/Cane/Brace
Campus Orientation
ADA Paratransit Eligible
Case 1

a. Open classroom
b. Conference room
c. Departmental office
d. RCPD
e. All of the above
Case 2

a. Our policy states that two classes are allowed to be missed and we must stick with that.
b. Sure, you can miss as many classes as necessary.
c. It depends on the nature of my course.
QUICK TIPS: Online Content Accessibility

Text and Contrast
Check that text has a strong contrast against the page background.

Text Styles
Use more than color to denote differences, emphasis, and content meaning.

Heading Styles
Use descriptive heading styles to designate content organization.

List Styles
Use bulleted or numbered list styles to denote list structure.

Alternative Text
Provide alternative text for images, graphs, and charts.

Multiple Avenues for Multimedia
Supply multiple avenues for multimedia content (e.g., audio with a transcript or video with captioning).

Added Context
Use descriptive titles, headers, and link text to provide added context.
Do not rely solely on references to shape, size, or position to describe content.

Tables
Format and use simple tables with column and row headers.

The “Basic Checklist: Online Content Accessibility” with more details is at webaccess.msu.edu/basiclist.

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Web Accessibility — webaccess.msu.edu
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Week 1 Introduction

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Click here.
You try.
Foundations of Science:

Applications of Organismal and Environmental Biology

Instructor: Sy Entist

Office: 500 North Kedzie
Phone: (555) 555-5555
E-mail address: syentist@msu.edu

Course Description:

The course focuses on the nature of science as a reliable method of acquiring knowledge about the natural world. Students will learn how to apply key scientific facts, concepts, laws and theories to distinguish science from non-science, bad science, and pseudoscience by analyzing a variety of claims and case studies.

Course Objectives:

The experiences in the course are designed ... 

1) to enhance your understanding and appreciation of science as a proven and reliable method of comprehending the natural world.

2) to distinguish scientific from non-scientific and pseudoscientific ways of thinking about the world.
## Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Study Material</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Psychology/Behavioral Science</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>Chapter 1,2,</td>
<td>What am I asked to believe?</td>
<td>Observation bias, perception</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/18-5/31</td>
<td>Chapter 5, 118-142</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chapter 7, 220-227</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
<td>Scientific ways of knowing</td>
<td>Astronomy/Physics: Introduction to matter and energy, gravity and EM</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/1-6/7</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>What is evidence?</td>
<td>Geology: Plate tectonics, buoyancy, and thermal energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/8-6/14</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Technical Issues:

Regardless of how much we prepare, or how good we are with technology, problems will arise. The University provides assistance with technical questions or problems come-up. Please call the technology 24 hour help line for assistance, and keep this number close by at all times: 1-800-500-1554 or locally (517)-355-2345. For more tips on online communicating go to [http://www.emcp.com/college_resource_centers/listonline.php?GroupID=6168](http://www.emcp.com/college_resource_centers/listonline.php?GroupID=6168)
Thank you!
webaccess@msu.edu