

**UNIVERSAL DESIGN
FOR LEARNING**

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1

Today's Session

- Introduction.
- Teaching Strategies and UD.
- Content You Design and UD.
- Blackboard and UD.
- YouTube Videos and UD.

2

Introduction

- Define Universal Design (UD)
 - "The design of products and environments to be useable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design". Robert Mace
 - Design with consideration and benefit to all people.
- My background.
- Benefits of UD.

3

Teaching Strategies

- Use a variety of teaching methods.
 - *Lecture (15 minute chunks).*
 - *Discussion.*
 - *Video clips to reinforce content.*
 - *Supplemental visual aids.*
 - *Hands-on learning.*
 - *Simulations.*
 - *Role play.*
 - *Structured exercises.*

4

Teaching Strategies, cont'd.

- Provide cognitive supports.
 - *Summarize major points.*
 - *Give background and contextual information.*
 - *Provide scaffolding tools (outlines, notes, summaries, study guides).*
 - *Deliver material in printed form and digital (Blackboard).*
 - *Provide opportunities for gaining further background information, vocabulary, and different levels of practice with variable levels of support.*
 - *Encourage and support students to develop their own scaffolding materials.*

5

Teaching Strategies, cont'd.

- Provide multiple means of representation - *If it's auditory make it visual. If it's visual make it auditory.*
 - *Choose what to include.*
 - *Examples*
 - *Instructions for assignments.*
 - *Complex concepts (concepts you know all students struggle with).*
 - *Supplemental video put in Blackboard.*
 - *Allow students to express themselves in multiple ways.*

6

Content Design – Microsoft Word

- Avoid serif fonts.
- Use Styles tool.
- Use the Columns tool instead of tabs (page layout, then columns).
- Use header or footer for page number location.
- Avoid color contrast as the only way to convey meaning.
- Provide alternate text for images, charts, tables (right click on image then click Format Picture).

7

Content Design - PDF

- Converting a Word document to PDF.
- Scanned items.
- Links to articles versus uploading the articles to Blackboard.

8

Content Design - PowerPoint

- Keep slide format simple.
- Give a title to each slide.
- Use bullets to distinguish each point.
- Put a period at the end of each point (for screen reader).
- Same as Word:
 - Avoid serif fonts.
 - Provide alternate text.
- Save PPT as an RTF file for an alternate format – provides only an outline – not a perfect solution.

9

Blackboard: Navigation and Consistency when using text boxes.

- Consistent formatting.
- Adding external links.
- Alternate text for images.

10

Videos

- Captioning benefits more than Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing students.
- Adding or editing captions to your YouTube videos
 - Includes your voice over PowerPoints that you've uploaded to YouTube.
- YouTube videos that are not your own: amara.org.

11

Resources

- Ten Simple Steps Toward Universal Design of Online Courses.
<http://ualr.edu/pace/tenstepsud/>
- Universal Design in Higher Education: From Principles to Practice, Second Edition (2015). Cheryl E. Burgstahler, Editor. Harvard Education Press, Cambridge, MA.
- Creating Accessible Word Documents.
<https://support.office.com/en-US/Article/Creating-accessible-Word-documents-d9bf5683-87ac-47ea-b91a-78dcaeb3c66d?ui=en-US&rs=en-US&ad=US>
- YouTube captioning resources.
https://support.google.com/youtube/topic/3014331?hl=en&ref_topic=4355241
- Online Voice Recorder.
<http://online-voicerecorder.com/>

12
