

Web Accessibility for Online Courses

Compliance

- Quality Matters™ Rubric Standard 8: Accessibility
- Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act
- Purpose
 - Eliminate barriers
 - Provide comparable access to all users

Assistive Technology

- Screen Readers
 - JAWS by Freedom Scientific
- Text Enlargement Software
- Voice Dictation Software
 - Dragon NaturallySpeaking by Nuance
- Operating Systems
 - Adjust color display
 - Keyboard to navigate

Barriers for Learners with Disabilities

- Multimedia without Text Equivalents
- Ambiguous links
- Inaccessible document format
- Poor contrast
- Relying on color

DOs and DON'Ts

DO

- Provide text equivalents for every non-text element
- Make documents organized and readable
- Include row and column headers for data tables
- Create text-only versions of content
- Provide time-flexible content

DON'T

- Make alt descriptions verbose, vague, misleading, inaccurate, or redundant
- Solely use color to convey important information
- Include headers in tables used for layout
- Use scripts that only function with a mouse
- Omit redundant text links on image maps

Alt Text


- Images
 - Use the **alt** or **longdesc** attribute
 - Succinctly describes the content
- Example
 - Identify the best alt description for the images provided below

Tables

- Table Used for Organizing Data

Header	Header	Header
Data	Data	Data
Data	Data	Data

- Table Used for Layout

<p>Bloom's Taxonomy Pyramid</p> <p>The pyramid on the right is used for...</p>	 A blue pyramid divided into five horizontal sections. From top to bottom, the sections are labeled: Creating, Evaluating, Analyzing, Applying, and Understanding. The bottom section is labeled Remembering.
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Effective Practices

- Layout
 - Logical heading structure
 - Reading order
 - Visual order
- Content
 - Line Length
 - Font-size and Format/Style
 - Contrast

Effective Practices

- Links
 - recognizable
 - “skip navigation”
 - descriptive
- Video/Audio/Animation
 - synchronized captions
 - play/pause button.
 - flashing content

Additional Resources

- <http://www.w3.org/WAI/intro/wcag>
- <http://webaim.org/standards/wcag/checklist>

Sources

- ADA Tool Kit: Website Accessibility Under Title II of the ADA. (n.d.). *ADA Home Page - ada.gov - Information and Technical Assistance on the Americans with Disabilities Act*. Retrieved March 4, 2013, from <http://www.ada.gov/pcatoolkit/chap5toolkit.htm>
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- WebAIM: WebAIM: Web Accessibility for Designers. (n.d.). *WebAIM: Web Accessibility In Mind*. Retrieved March 4, 2013, from <http://webaim.org/resources/designers/>
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