

# Accessibility and Universal Design for Online Courses

Making the practice practicable and a bit less scary!



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#### **Agenda**

- Why Accessibility?
- Principles of Universal Design
- Practical Applications
- Office of Disability Services





#### Why Accessibility?

#### **Accessibility Ensures Access**

Access is about removing barriers in whatever form they take:

- Physical
- Sensory
- Cognitive/Emotional
- Technological
- Financial
- Spatial
- Temporal





#### Important Legislation

- Rehabilitation Act of 1974: Section 504
   Prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities in programs that receive federal financial assistance.
- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
   Prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, schools, and transportation.
- Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010
   Increases access of persons with disabilities to digital technology.



#### \*Quality Matters Rubric

**General Standard 8** – Accessibility and Usability: The course design reflects a commitment to accessibility and usability for all learners.

Essential Standards (3 points):

- 8.1 Course navigation facilitates ease of use.
- 8.2 The course design facilitates readability.
- 8.3 The course provides accessible text and images in files, documents, LMS pages, and web pages to meet the needs of diverse learners.



#### \*Quality Matters Rubric

#### Very Important Standards (2 points):

- 8.4 The course provides alternative means of access to multimedia content in formats that meet the needs of diverse learners.
- 8.5 Course multimedia facilitate ease of use.
- 8.6 Vendor accessibility statements are provided for all technology required in the course.



#### **Universal Design Principles**

- Improved usability helps everyone!
- Over 50% of students see their courses the first time on a mobile device.
- Try the smartphone "test" on your own course or website.







# Principles of Universal Design

#### **Principles of Universal Design**

- 1. Equitable use
- 2. Flexibility in use
- 3. Simple and intuitive
- 4. Perceptible information
- 5. Tolerance for error
- 6. Low physical effort
- 7. Size and space for appropriate use





#### 1. Equitable use

- Provide various learning routes (text, audio, video and graphic representations.)
- Rethink lessons if they are all dependent on a mode or method.
- Consider multiple assessment types, such as:

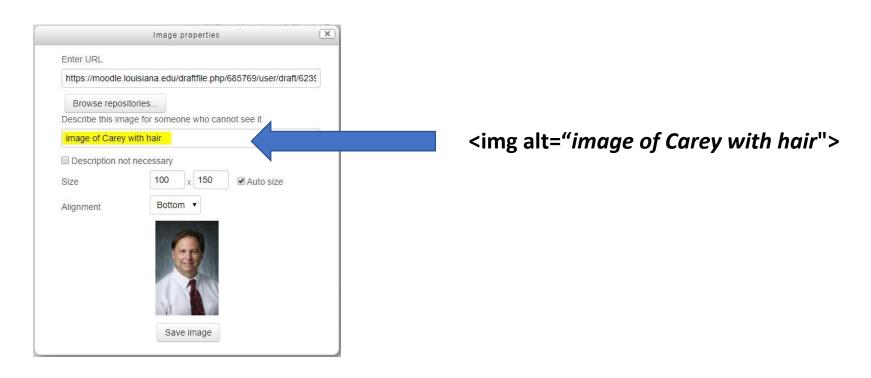
Projects Presentations Role Play

Debates Discussion Forums

**Portfolios** 



#### 1. Equitable use



- Provide alternative text and titles for photos and graphics.
- Name hyperlinks descriptively not just "click here" text.



#### 1. Equitable use



zoom





- Provide video captions and audio transcriptions.
- Provide audio descriptions of important visuals.





Contents are more important than the container!



• Provide multiple pathways to navigate through information and access important resources.

Mobile apps and HTML provide flexibility in delivery.



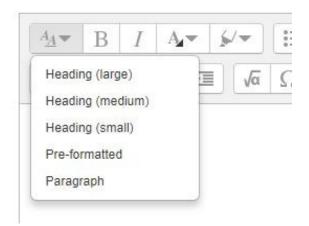
 Audio, text, and printable versions have value for different users with different learning styles and in different settings.



 Responsive technology customizes content for user's device, access speed, and even language.

 Use text editor style headings to signal hierarchy of information.

 Don't use images for important organizing features such as titles and section headings.





- Do not use PDFs that are just image scans.
- Images are unreadable by text-to-voice technology.
- They are bad for mobile devices and printing, too!



**PDF** 

#### Keywords

Hotels, Security, Crime, United kingdom

#### Abstract

This article presents the results of an exploratory investigation into the role of the security manager in the UK hotel industry, an area of management that has been under-

#### Research on security management and crime in hotels

Research on the role of security managers within the hotel industry is extremely scarce and this reflects a general lack of research on the role of security managers across all the service industries. Indeed, even defining what constitutes "security management" is

- Properly formatted PDFs contain heading tags, content outlines, and alternate text for images.
- Click and select text to make sure PDF is not image.

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#### Abstract

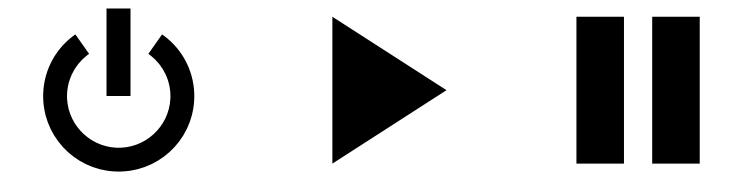
This article presents the results of an exploratory investigation into the of the security manager in the hotel industry, area of management that has been under-researched. In addition, this paper provides qualitative evidence about the range of crime experienced by hotels, and how this crime is managed. The

#### Research on security management and crime in hotels

Research on the role of security managers within the hotel industry is extremely scarce and this reflects a general lack of research on the role of security managers across all the service industries. Indeed, even defining what constitutes "security management" is problematic (Nalla and Newman, 1990: Manunta, 1999), with different service industries emphasising different aspects of this function. Retailers

Make sure text is selectable and searchable.

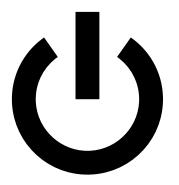
#### 3. Simple and Intuitive





#### 3. Simple and Intuitive

- Make instructions and expectations clear.
- Explain the meaning of icons and symbols.
   (then be consistent with their use!)
- Prioritize information in a logical sequence.

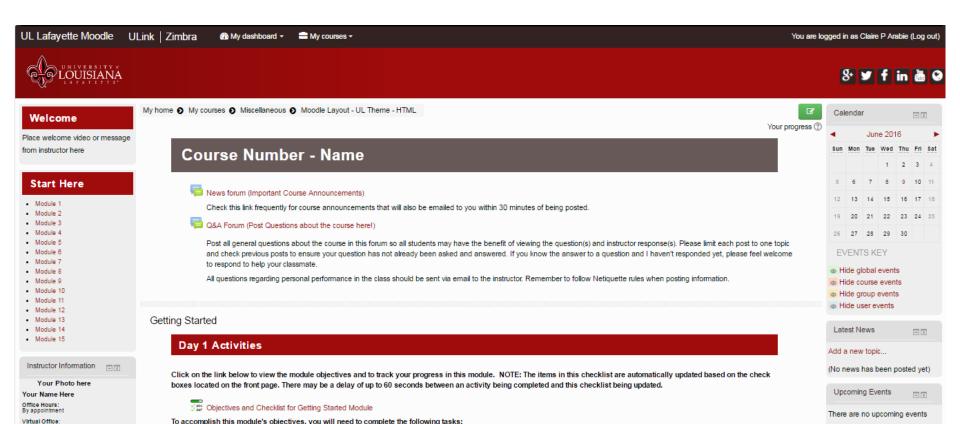




#### 3. Simple and Intuitive

Use consistent navigation and layout design.

Image of UL Lafayette "Suggested" Moodle Layout





## Geaux Cajuns!

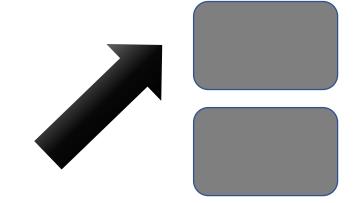
Translation: Go Cajuns!



Fush the BLUE Button for Room Service.

Push the RED Button to call Security.

- Avoid text across images or low contrast backgrounds.
- Do not depend on meaning of color or icons for important distinctions.



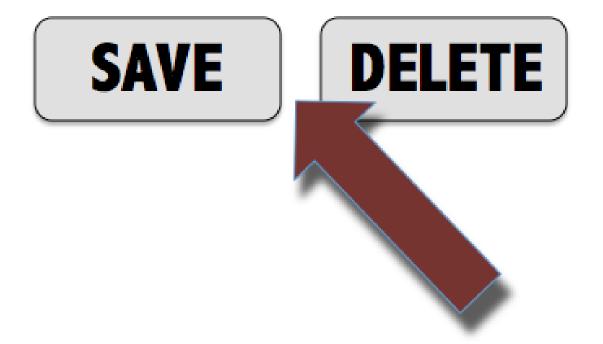
Provide "white space" between various elements and sections.



- Define new terms and acronyms.
- Avoid use of trade jargon.
- Make examples relevant to a wide range of learners from various backgrounds.









- Help students to avoid or fix their own errors.
- Provide links to help and support services.
- Emphasize important steps, such as submitting a quiz or final version of document.

	Cont	firm	×
Are you sure t	hat you want to o	delete the Page "Mo	odle Page
	Yes	No	



 Specify due dates in syllabus and post prominently in course pages.



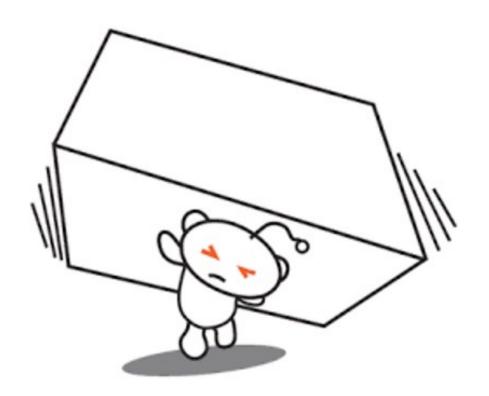
- Provide feedback on important stages in projects and research papers.
- Give opportunities for draft documents and corrective resubmission before the final version.



- Provide a practice test with the same formatting as the real test.
- Introduce new technology with low stakes practice.
- Plan for multiple low stakes assessments instead of one big high stakes assessment.



#### 6. Low physical effort





#### 6. Low physical effort

- Reduce the number of "clicks" to get to resources and activities.
- Avoid repetitive or unnecessary steps.
- Remove blinking or pulsating items.
- Reduce sensory distractions in your content.





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By Mignon Fogarty, Grammar Girl

February 8, 201

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QDT 300 MM



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Next>



**Free Writing Tool** 

Grammarly









Grammar Girl's Guide to AP Style

Thursday, Feb. 28, 2019 1-2:30pm CT



WAKE UP WHERE THE ACTION IS.



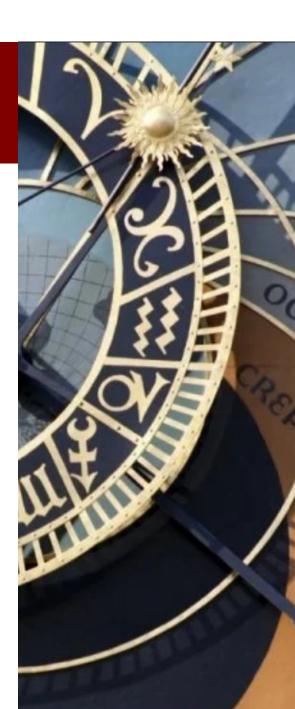




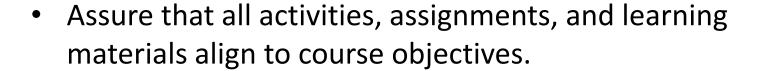




- Allow access to learning materials and resources from the start of the course.
- Extend testing options to include early morning and late evening.
- Offer "virtual" options events and lectures. Record them for those who cannot attend.



- Consider due dates and cutoff deadlines carefully.
- Allow adequate time for activities, projects, and assignments.





- Arrange elements in order of priority.
- Present content in a logical and consistent manner.
- Avoid requiring large file size downloads.
- Stream video and multimedia.







# Office of Disability Services

- Facilitate accommodations to qualified students in order to provide equal access to programs and services.
- Provide assistance to faculty to help them meet their legal obligation to provide course accommodations.
- Examples of accommodations include extended testing time, note takers, braille, interpreters, and transcriptions.



Students register with ODS in a two-part process:

- 1) Students first provide medical documentation.
- 2) Meet with ODS staff to determine reasonable and appropriate accommodations.

Only then will accommodation requests be communicated to faculty via a paper letter or email notification.



- Students with disabilities have the right to equal access of all UL Lafayette programs and services.
- Students with disabilities are responsible for self identifying and requesting accommodations.
- Students with disabilities are responsible for meeting all course and program goals and objectives.

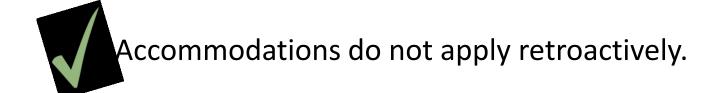


How they go about meeting those goals and objectives may be individually determined.



- Students can register with ODS at any point in the semester.
- Students provide their accommodation letter to faculty member as soon as the semester begins (already registered)

or very soon after registering with our office (new students).







#### **QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

Thank you for your participation!

Please send questions and comments to carey@louisiana.edu