

Online Course Accessibility Checklist

Instructional Technology and Distance Education Services

The following checklist is a basic level list to ensure online course content is accessible. More advanced levels of accessibility can be achieved through consultation with an Instructional Technology Coordinator (ITC) at KLM 259. To schedule an appointment, please send an e-mail to elearning@tamiu.edu.

Course

- Instructions for my course use plain understandable language. Acronyms are clearly defined.
- The course contains no blinking, flashing, or sparkling animated images.
- Text and background color have sufficient contrast on all documents, PowerPoint's, webpages outside and within the Learning Management System.
- If the shape, color, or styling of any text object conveys information, that information is conveyed in plain text as well. (An example that would fail this requirement: If there is an unorganized list of people who participated in a race and only the winners' names are bolded. No other identifiers are found separating the winners from the other participants.)

Links

- The links within my course and documents use descriptive text and are uniquely named. (For example, instead of "click here" use the name of the resource you are linking to for example, "Google").
- Websites I have linked to and required my students to use, follow appropriate guidelines.

Syllabus

- The syllabus has a Disability Services/ADA statement with the current contact and location information for the university's Disability Services Office.
- The syllabus lists contact information for technical assistance and when to use it?
- The syllabus outlines how students should communicate with you. Multiple options are provided?
- The syllabus lists a turnaround time for online communication. (i.e. 48 hours response on emails)
- The syllabus states standards of appropriate communication online. (i.e. Netiquette guidelines)
- The syllabus has a clear outline for course content and student expectations.
- The syllabus has examples for different standards of "discussion posting" for courses? (i.e. discussion grading criteria)
- The syllabus contains information about the required and optional textbook(s) and course material?

Documents

- Documents are saved as accessible Word (.doc, .docx), PDF (.pdf), or RTF (.rtf).
- Text in documents can be highlighted, copied, and pasted.
- Documents contain actual text, not scanned or copied images of text. (Example: You cannot highlight text on a scanned document).
- Images of text are avoided OR an alternative is provided. See Alternative Text section.
- Text formatting (shape, color, and styling) cannot be the only way to convey information. Example: If the incorrect answer is colored red, you must add an identifier like "This answer is incorrect".
- Document text has been modularized for easy navigation.
- Headings/Styles have been used for titles and document sections titles.
- If you do not have accessible documents have you contacted IT & DE for assistance?

PowerPoint Presentations

- All course presentations were created using a standard template.
- Additional text boxes, smart art or objects were not inserted.
- The presentations were created using high and low contrast for text and background.
- The presentation includes alternative text for all graphics and pictures.
- The presentation includes text typed in the order it is read which can be verified in the "Outline" panel.
- All textual information within a PowerPoint slide appears in the proper order on the "Outline" view. (Using the built-in slide layouts provided within PowerPoint usually insures this.)
- An outline of the PowerPoint Presentation has been provided as an alternative to the PowerPoint Presentation.

Alternative Text

- My course contains no blinking, flashing, or sparkling animated images.
- All pictures, charts, graphs and tables that contain information or data within my course and course documents have alternate text or a text description that conveys the same information.

Video and Audio

- All audio-video content, regardless of format (web, DVD and VHS), are captioned, have subtitles, a full transcript(s) or a synopsis.
- All audio-video content provided and/or linked to within my course and course documents contain synchronized captions or a full transcript.
- All video-only content (with no audio track) has a text description of the important visual content from the video.
- All audio-only content (podcast, mp3, CD's, etc.), I have provided within my course or linked to outside of my course have a transcript available.
- Transcripts or captions have speaker identification when media has multiple speakers.
- A synopsis has been provided for all audio, audio-video, video-only content and narrated presentations that do not have closed captioning or a full transcript.
- If you do not have accessible media have you contacted an ITC for assistance?