

Accessibility of Instructional Materials

Dear Faculty,

The Provost's Office, College and School of Education Deans, and the Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology (CTLT) are working together on a comprehensive plan to enhance the accessibility of instructional materials in Canvas. This initiative aligns with the Department of Justice's recent update to the regulations for Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which now includes specific <u>guidelines</u> to ensure that web content and mobile apps are accessible to everyone.

As part of UWF's ongoing efforts toward compliance, all digital course materials will need to meet the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) Version 2.1, Level AA standard.

We will address this initiative progressively, starting with improving the accessibility of PDFs. We envision the following themes and will focus on them one at a time:

- PDF Accessibility Overview
- Document Headings and Color Contrast
- Image Description/Alt Text
- Video Captioning and Transcripts

We are in the process of acquiring an institutional Adobe Acrobat Pro license to make PDF corrections easier and more efficient for everyone.

We understand there may be questions and concerns, but we'll navigate this process together.

The CTLT will take the lead in expanding training, resources, and support. Here's what to expect:

- The UWF Accessibility of Instructional Materials (AIM) program will provide resources to assist faculty in developing and identifying accessible course materials.
- On-demand online training on Course Design and Accessibility will be available.
- CTLT Faculty Fellows will be assigned to each College and the School of Education to provide personalized, hands-on support.
- Additional resources and workshops will be offered through the CTLT.

In the coming weeks, you'll receive more detailed communication from the CTLT outlining specific timelines, resources, and support options.

Thank you for your dedication as we work together to improve accessibility for all.

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