

# Creating Accessible Online Course Content with Canvas

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# When we say “Accessible”

- Strategies
  - Hearing impaired
  - Blind or low vision
- UDL (Universal Design for Learning) Principles

# What We Will Cover Today

- Items to consider when creating a Canvas Page
  - Layout/Organization
  - Headings
  - Images
  - Links/URLs
  - Color
  - Tables
  - Videos

# Layout/Organization

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- Provide a title for the page
- Organize the content
- Include section headings
- Consistent style
- Clear, consistent navigation structure
  
- Bad Example
- Good Example

# Headings

- Example

H2

## Heading 2

Apply to the main heading/title of the page. There should only be one per page.

H3

## Heading 3

Apply to the sub-sections underneath the main heading.

H4

## Heading 4

Apply to the sub-headings underneath the sub-sections.

IDL6543 Fall2012 → Pages → IDL6543 Course Orientation Activities  
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## IDL6543 Course Orientation Activities H2

It is very important to design an online course in a way that supports students to get started on the right foot. This means that when a student logs in to your course for the first time, they can easily navigate to the pertinent areas (syllabus, schedule, teacher introduction). A well-designed course ensures that your students will not have to spend time searching for what they need, and instead focus their full attention on the actual content in your course.

This module serves as an example of an online course orientation. As you complete the orientation activities, reflect on your experiences as a student in in this course (for instance, can you easily find what you need?), and think about how you might orient students to your own online courses.

### Assignment Overview H3

- Take the Instructure Canvas Student Tour
- Review the Explanation of Research letter
- Complete the Syllabus Quiz with a score of 80% or higher
- Post to the Introduction Discussion

### Assignment Details H3

#### Take the Instructure Canvas Student Tour H4

At UCF, we brand our learning management system (LMS) "Webcourses@UCF." As you may already know, UCF announced that Instructure Canvas will be the LMS beginning in Spring 2013. Since this fall semester is a pilot for Canvas, we are temporarily calling this system Webcourses2@UCF. Therefore, IDL6543 is being delivered in Webcourses2@UCF Canvas.

# Images

- Avoid purely decorative images or those which distract from the main content.
- Alternative text: provides a textual alternative to non-text content in web pages

(WebAim.org)

# Images: Alternative Text

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Important for:

- Users with visual impairments
- Users have chosen not to view images
- Users who don't load unsecure content
- [Example](#)

# Links/URLs

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- Create brief link phrases
- Linked text is descriptive (e.g., UCF Homepage) instead of just “Click here.”
- Example

# Color

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- Do not use color alone to convey meaning
- Text colors on a page are kept to a minimum
- Text and background demonstrate good color contrast

# Color/Contrast

- Utilize the WebAIM Color Contrast Checker
- Minimum acceptable criteria for normal size text is 4.5.
- Minimum acceptable criteria for large size text is 3.1.
- Example

# Text

- Canvas by default uses Helvetica which is a sans serif font type.
  - Text is large enough to be read on a computer screen.
- Use consistent coloring to display text in a sentence, paragraph, or page.
- Text and background demonstrate good color contrast

# Tables

- Tables should be used for data display, not layout
- Column or row headings can be added in MSWord however not carried over to Canvas.
- Manually add column or row headings in Canvas HTML editor
- [Example](#)

# Videos: Scripting

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- Easy to add captions
- Ensures important points are covered
- Easy to make updates/edits
- Cheaper than paying a transcriptionist

# Videos: Captions

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Why caption when you don't have students with hearing impairments in your class?

- LD and ESOL
- Learn difficult terminology
- Convenience

# Captioning Resources

- [Captioning a video uploaded to Canvas](#)
- [Youtube Auto Captioning](#)
- [Youtube Self-Captioning Service](#)

# Thank you!

## Contact information

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- All presentation materials are available at <https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1003256>