



**INFORMATION TO
SUPPORT INSTRUCTORS
WITH ACCESSIBLE
DESIGN**

Consider implementing basic universal design principles to make your course accessible for a wide variety of learners in diverse life circumstances. When teaching a student with any disability, remember that many of the principles for inclusive design could be considered beneficial to any student. The idea of “universal design” is a method of designing course materials, content and instruction to benefit all learners.

Create learning environments in which students feel free to ask questions and discuss/apply the material to help them integrate their learning.

“The value and goals of this Strategy are meant to be lived out loud, integrated into day-to-day disclosure, and situated at the forefront of University operations and decision making. It is a campus-wide call to action that necessitates buy-in at all levels and summons each member of the University community to become dynamically involved in creating change.”

**Student Mental Health Strategy- University of Windsor.
2018, pg. 10.**

Consider the following these top 10 tips for Universal Design tips:

1. Ensure your syllabus clearly articulates the essential course requirements and includes the Accessibility Statement.
2. Provide handouts (e.g. PowerPoint slides) and any other course information ahead of time and in electronic formats to assist students in preparing for and following the lecture.
3. Include the equivalent text alternative for all graphics and images.
4. Use captioned or subtitled video and transcribed audio, where possible.
5. Use colour effectively by providing crisp, high-contrast handouts.
6. Avoid using animated, flickering or flashing content.
7. Use a font that is a sufficient size (i.e. 12 point or larger) and a readable style (e.g. sans serif typefaces such as Arial or Calibri).
8. Repeat student questions and comments out loud to help students follow the discussion.
9. Request electronic versions of textbooks when ordering.
10. Be open to meet with students who request special meetings to talk about Memory Aids or the like.