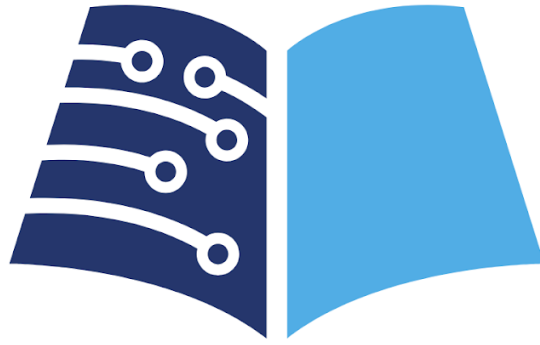




DIGITABILITY

**PROMOTING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES' EMPLOYMENT
BY ENHANCING THEIR DIGITAL SKILLS AND COMPETENCES TO SUPPORT
A REMOTE WORKING SCHEME**

Online Learning



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Table of contents

1. Introduction.....	2
1.1. The Learning Objectives Covered by Topic	2
2. Moodle.....	3
2.1 Accessibility for People with Hearing Impairments	4
2.2.1 Exercises	7
2.6 Resources.....	10
3. Google Classroom.....	11
3.1 Accessibility for People with Hearing Impairments	12
3.2.1 Exercises	15
3.6 Resources.....	18
4. Microsoft Teams.....	19
4.1 Accessibility for People with Hearing Impairments	20
4.2.1 Exercises	23
4.6 Resources.....	25
5. Canvas LMS.....	26
5.1 Accessibility for People with Hearing Impairments	27
5.2.1 Exercises	29
5.6 Resources.....	32

1. Introduction

In the contemporary world, access to digital skills has become crucial for professional success. Proficiency in digital fields not only broadens job opportunities but also facilitates greater engagement in society and the economy. This chapter explores how the access to online learning can be accessed by people with disabilities and play a pivotal role in enhancing their digital skills, opening doors to a realm of employment opportunities that were previously unimaginable.

People with disabilities bring a wide array of talents, abilities, and unique skills that can enrich any workplace. However, they often encounter additional challenges in accessing education and professional opportunities. Online learning emerges as a significant resource for breaking down geographical and physical barriers, enabling individuals with disabilities to acquire digital skills and compete effectively in the job market.

This chapter examines the potential of online learning in providing personalized and accessible education for people with disabilities. Through an analysis of online tools, resources, and strategies, we will discover how online learning can be tailored to the diverse needs of individuals with disabilities, improving their independence and career prospects.

1.1. The Learning Objectives Covered by Topic

In completing this Topic, the learner will be able to:

- Learn how to access and utilize most common platforms aimed at online learning:
 - Moodle
 - Google Classroom
 - MS Teams
 - Canvas LMS
- Activate and enable accessibility features related to each specific impairment

2. Moodle



Moodle is an open-source learning management system (LMS), renowned for its adaptability and widespread use in the education sector. It serves as a robust platform for educators to create and manage online courses, offering a range of tools and features to enhance the learning experience.

At its core, Moodle is free to download and use, a hallmark of its open-source nature. This aspect not only makes it accessible to a wide range of educational institutions but also allows for extensive customization to meet specific needs and preferences. The platform enables educators to design comprehensive courses, incorporating various materials such as lectures, readings, quizzes, and assignments. It supports a diverse set of interactive tools including forums, wikis, and chats, fostering an engaging and collaborative learning environment.

One of the significant strengths of Moodle is its sophisticated user management system. It accommodates different user roles, including administrators, teachers, and students, each granted distinct levels of access and capabilities. This feature ensures a streamlined and role-specific experience for each user, enhancing the overall functionality of the platform.

Moodle is not just about course delivery; it also excels in tracking and reporting student performance. Educators can leverage Moodle's tools to monitor student progress, assess participation, and generate detailed reports, which are invaluable for guiding instructional strategies and student support.

Customization is another area where Moodle stands out. Institutions can tailor the platform's appearance and functionalities to align with their specific requirements. This flexibility is further bolstered by the availability of a wide range of plugins, developed by Moodle's vibrant community. This community, consisting of users and developers, plays a crucial role in the ongoing development and enhancement of the platform, providing valuable support and resources.

Moodle's scalability is a crucial feature, making it suitable for a variety of settings, from small classes to large universities and organizations. This scalability ensures that as an institution grows or changes, Moodle can adapt accordingly.

Its design emphasizes accessibility and mobile compatibility. It ensures that the platform is easily navigable on various devices, including smartphones and tablets. This feature is particularly important in today's mobile-centric world, as it allows learners to access educational content conveniently, irrespective of their location.

2.1 Accessibility for People with Hearing Impairments

Here are detailed descriptions of the accessibility tools in Moodle for people with hearing impairments, along with comprehensive instructions on how users can activate and utilize these tools:

Closed Captioning for Videos

Moodle supports closed captioning for video content, a vital tool for users with hearing impairments. This feature provides a written transcript of the audio content, displayed in sync with the video. It ensures that all spoken words, sound effects, and relevant audio cues are accessible in text form.

- **Activation Process:** Video materials uploaded to Moodle can include closed captions. Users can activate captions by clicking the caption button typically found in the video player interface. Instructors are encouraged to either upload videos with embedded captions or provide separate caption files.

Transcripts for Audio Materials

In addition to closed captioning for videos, Moodle encourages the provision of transcripts for all audio materials. Transcripts offer a complete written version of the audio content, enabling users with hearing impairments to access the information at their own pace.

- **Activation Process:** Transcripts should be made available by instructors alongside audio materials. Users can access these transcripts by clicking on provided links or downloading them from the relevant course sections.

Sign Language Interpretation Videos

For key instructional videos, Moodle supports the integration of sign language interpretation. This feature involves having a sign language interpreter visible in the video, translating spoken words and conveying them through sign language.

- **Activation Process:** Instructors can embed sign language interpretation within videos or provide separate videos with a sign language interpreter. Users can select these videos as needed to view the sign language interpretation.

Visual Alerts and Notifications

Moodle incorporates visual alerts and notifications to ensure that users with hearing impairments are promptly informed of important updates, messages, and activities. These visual cues are designed to be easily noticeable and provide equivalent information to what might otherwise be conveyed through audio alerts.

- **Activation Process:** Visual alerts and notifications are a standard feature in Moodle and require no additional activation. They automatically appear on the user's screen for important updates or interactions.

Accessible Web Design

Moodle's web design adheres to accessibility principles that benefit users with hearing impairments. This includes clear visual organization, easy-to-read fonts, and a straightforward navigation layout, ensuring that information is easily accessible without relying on audio cues.

- **Activation Process:** This accessible web design is inherent in Moodle and requires no activation, providing an immediate and seamless experience for all users.

Real-Time Messaging with Text Support

Moodle features real-time messaging systems with text support, enabling users with hearing impairments to communicate effectively with instructors and peers. This tool is essential for participation in discussions, group work, and receiving support.

- **Activation Process:** The messaging system is available by default. Users can access it through the Moodle interface to send and receive text-based messages in real-time.

2.2.1 Exercises

Activity 1: Activating Closed Captioning in Moodle Videos

Objective:

To activate closed captions in video materials for enhanced accessibility.

Steps:

- Access the Video Material:

Log into Moodle and navigate to the course with the video.

Open the video you wish to watch.

- Activate Closed Captions:

Look for the caption button, usually labeled "CC," in the video player interface.

Click on this button to activate closed captions.

The captions should now appear on the screen, displaying the audio content in text form.

- Adjust Caption Settings (if applicable):

If the video player allows, adjust the caption settings like font size or background for better readability.

Activity 2: Accessing Transcripts for Audio Materials

Objective:

To access written transcripts for audio materials.

Steps:

- Find the Audio Material:

Log into Moodle and go to the relevant course section.

Locate the audio material for which you need a transcript.

- Access the Transcript:

Look for a link or attachment that indicates a transcript of the audio material.

Click on the link or download the transcript file.

Read the transcript as you listen to the audio, or use it as a standalone resource.

Activity 3: Utilizing Sign Language Interpretation Videos

Objective:

To access and utilize videos with sign language interpretation.

Steps:

- Locate the Video with Sign Language Interpretation:

Log into Moodle and navigate to the course.

Find the video that includes sign language interpretation. It might be embedded in the video itself or provided as a separate video.

- Play the Video:

Click on the video to play it.

Ensure the sign language interpreter is visible and easy to see.

- Watch and Follow Along:

Watch the video, paying attention to the sign language interpreter.

Use the visual cues provided by the interpreter to understand the content.

Activity 4: Recognizing Visual Alerts and Notifications

Objective:

To recognize and respond to visual alerts and notifications in Moodle.

Steps:

- Regularly Check Moodle Interface:

While logged into Moodle, regularly monitor the screen for any pop-up alerts or notifications.

These could appear during any activity within Moodle.

- Respond to Alerts:

When you see a visual alert or notification, click on it to view more details.

Follow any instructions or go to the relevant area in Moodle as indicated by the alert.

Activity 5: Navigating Moodle's Accessible Web Design

Objective:

To navigate Moodle effectively, utilizing its accessible web design.

Steps:

- Explore Moodle Layout:

After logging in, take some time to familiarize yourself with the Moodle dashboard and course layout.

Note the clear visual organization and easy-to-read fonts.

- Utilize Navigation Features:

Use the straightforward navigation menus to access different course materials and sections.

Notice how information is presented visually, making it accessible without audio cues.

Activity 6: Using Real-Time Messaging with Text Support

Objective:

To communicate effectively using Moodle's real-time text messaging system.

Steps:

- Access the Messaging System:

In Moodle, locate and click on the messaging icon or access the messaging system from the dashboard.

- Compose and Send Messages:

Select a recipient (a peer or instructor).

Type your message in the text field.

Send the message and wait for a reply.

- Engage in Conversations:

Use the messaging system for real-time text conversations.

Participate in group discussions or seek support as needed.

2.6 Resources

MoodleDocs on Accessibility: <https://docs.moodle.org/en/accessibility>

How Moodle supports accessibility: <https://moodle.com/>

Accessibility Toolkit – MoodleDocs: https://docs.moodle.org/en/Accessibility_Toolkit

3. Google Classroom



Google Classroom is a free web service developed by Google for schools that aims to simplify creating, distributing, and grading assignments in a paperless way. It's part of the Google Workspace for Education suite which includes Google Docs, Gmail, and Google Drive. Google Classroom is designed to streamline the process of sharing files between teachers and students, making it a popular choice in the realm of digital education.

One of the key features of Google Classroom is its intuitive interface. It's designed to be user-friendly, allowing teachers to quickly set up a virtual classroom, invite students, and start distributing materials and assignments. The platform integrates seamlessly with other Google services like Google Docs and Google Drive, facilitating easy creation, submission, and storage of assignments and course materials.

Google Classroom enables teachers to create classes, post assignments, organize folders, and view work in real-time. It's particularly effective in supporting a paperless classroom environment. Teachers can create assignments within the platform, and students can complete and submit their work all online. The system also supports the grading and feedback process, allowing teachers to provide direct and timely feedback on student submissions.

Collaboration is another strong aspect of Google Classroom. It encourages interaction between students and teachers through features like the class stream, where announcements can be

made, and questions can be posed and answered. Additionally, it supports collaborative projects where students can work together in real-time using Google Docs and other Workspace tools.

Google Classroom is also known for its accessibility and efficiency. It's accessible from any device with an internet connection, making it a convenient option for remote or blended learning environments. The platform reduces the need for physical materials, which can be beneficial for both the environment and reducing school costs.

3.1 Accessibility for People with Hearing Impairments

Google Classroom's commitment to accessibility extends to accommodating individuals with hearing impairments, ensuring they have equal access to educational resources. This is crucial for providing an equitable learning experience for all users. The platform incorporates various features and tools designed specifically to aid users with hearing impairments, facilitating their full participation in the educational process.

Here are key accessibility features in Google Classroom for people with hearing impairments, along with instructions for utilizing these tools:

Closed Captioning in Videos

Google Classroom supports closed captioning in video content, allowing users with hearing impairments to read a text version of the audio. This feature is crucial for understanding lectures and video materials.

- **How to Activate:** When playing a video within Google Classroom, click on the “CC” icon to enable closed captioning. If the video has captions available, they will be displayed.

Transcripts for Audio and Video Content

Transcripts can be provided for audio and video materials, offering a written version of the content. This ensures that users who are deaf or hard of hearing can access the information presented in these formats.

- **Accessing Transcripts:** Look for available transcripts below the video or audio content in Google Classroom. If provided, they can be opened and read alongside or instead of the audio/video content.

Visual Alerts and Notifications

Google Classroom can be set up to provide visual alerts for notifications, ensuring that users with hearing impairments don't miss important updates or communications.

- **Setting Visual Alerts:** Go to the settings in Google Classroom and enable visual notifications. This will replace or supplement audio alerts with on-screen notifications.

Sign Language Interpretation

Instructors can incorporate sign language interpretation into their live sessions or recorded videos, making the content accessible to users who use sign language.

- **Incorporating Sign Language:** Educators can include a sign language interpreter in their video frames during live sessions or in pre-recorded videos, ensuring that the content is accessible to users who rely on sign language.

Text-Based Communication Options

Google Classroom offers various text-based communication methods, such as chat and discussion forums, allowing users with hearing impairments to engage in class discussions and communicate with instructors and peers.

- **Utilizing Text-Based Communication:** Participate in class discussions and communicate with instructors using the chat and forum features in Google Classroom. These tools provide an effective way for users with hearing impairments to engage in the learning process.

Adjustable Volume Control

For users with partial hearing impairments, Google Classroom provides the option to adjust the volume of audio content to suit individual needs.

- **Adjusting Volume:** Use the volume control settings in the video or audio player within Google Classroom to adjust the volume to a comfortable level.

By integrating these accessibility features, Google Classroom ensures that users with hearing impairments can access educational content, participate in class activities, and engage with their peers, thus fostering an inclusive and supportive learning environment. It is important for educators and content creators to be aware of these features and utilize them to make their courses as accessible as possible for all users.

3.2.1 Exercises

Activity 1: Enabling Closed Captioning in Google Classroom Videos

Objective:

To activate closed captioning for videos within Google Classroom.

Steps:

- Access a Video in Google Classroom:

Log into Google Classroom and navigate to a course with video content.

Play the video you want to watch.

- Enable Closed Captioning:

Look for the “CC” icon in the video player.

Click on this icon to enable closed captions.

- View the Video with Captions:

Watch the video and read the captions to follow along with the audio content.

Activity 2: Accessing Transcripts for Audio and Video Content

Objective:

To locate and read transcripts for audio and video materials in Google Classroom.

Steps:

- Find Audio/Video Content:

Log into Google Classroom and select a course with audio or video materials.

- Locate Transcripts:

Look for links or files labeled as transcripts below the audio or video content.

Open the transcript to read alongside the audio/video content.

Activity 3: Setting Up Visual Alerts and Notifications

Objective:

To enable visual notifications for important updates in Google Classroom.

Steps:

- Go to Classroom Settings:

In Google Classroom, access your account settings.

- Enable Visual Notifications:

Find the option for notifications and select visual alerts.

- Test Notifications:

Perform an action that triggers a notification (like submitting an assignment) to check the visual alerts.

Activity 4: Incorporating Sign Language Interpretation

Objective:

For educators to include sign language interpretation in their Google Classroom videos.

Steps:

- Prepare Video Content:

Plan a video for a Google Classroom course, either live or pre-recorded.

- Include Sign Language Interpretation:

Arrange for a sign language interpreter to be part of the video.

- Upload to Google Classroom:

Share the video with sign language interpretation on Google Classroom.

Activity 5: Utilizing Text-Based Communication in Google Classroom

Objective:

To engage in class discussions and communicate with instructors and peers using text-based features.

Steps:

- Access Discussion Forums or Chat:

Log into Google Classroom and enter a course with active discussions or chat.

- Participate Using Text:

Engage in discussions or communicate with instructors and peers by typing your responses in chat or forum features.

Activity 6: Adjusting Audio Volume in Google Classroom

Objective:

For users with partial hearing impairments to adjust the volume of audio content.

Steps:

- Access Audio Content:

Open a course in Google Classroom that includes audio materials.

- Adjust Volume:

Use the volume controls in the video or audio player to set a comfortable listening level.

- Evaluate Audio Settings:

Listen to the content at the adjusted volume to ensure it meets your hearing needs.



3.6 Resources

Accessibility features in Google for Education

<https://edu.google.com/why-google/accessibility/>

Google Classroom accessibility empowers inclusive learning

<https://blog.google/outreach-initiatives/education/classroom-accessibility/>

Google Classroom - How can I make my class accessible for learners?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=agbjRsJGCms>

Google Education: Accessibility Tools and Features

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f6t0HcVcxHA>



4. Microsoft Teams



Microsoft Teams

Microsoft Teams, a part of the Microsoft 365 suite of applications, has emerged as a significant tool for e-learning and virtual collaboration. Originally designed as a business communication platform, its features have been adapted to meet the growing needs of the educational sector, especially in the context of increasing demand for remote and hybrid learning environments.

At its core, Microsoft Teams provides a comprehensive, integrated platform that facilitates both synchronous and asynchronous learning. The platform allows educators to create virtual classrooms, where they can conduct live classes via video conferencing. This live interaction is crucial for maintaining a sense of classroom community and direct engagement between teachers and students, which is often a challenge in online education.

One of the distinguishing features of Teams is its seamless integration with the broader Microsoft 365 suite, including applications like Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and OneNote. This integration enables educators and students to collaborate efficiently on assignments and projects. For instance, the integration with OneNote allows for the creation of class notebooks, a digital space where teachers can share course materials and students can take and submit notes and assignments.

Beyond just video conferencing and document sharing, Teams also offers features like chat functions, file storage, and collaborative workspaces. These features support a diverse range of teaching and learning styles, making it easier to adapt to different educational needs and

preferences. The chat function, for example, enables quick communication and fosters a collaborative community among students, allowing for discussions, group projects, and peer learning.

An important aspect of Microsoft Teams is its ability to create a structured and organized learning environment. Educators can set up different channels for different subjects or groups, helping to keep course materials and discussions organized and easily accessible. This organization is critical in an online learning environment where managing digital resources efficiently can be challenging.

Microsoft Teams also places a strong emphasis on accessibility and inclusivity. The platform includes features like automatic subtitles in video calls, immersive reading experiences, and support for multiple languages, ensuring that students with different needs and abilities can participate fully in the learning process.

4.1 Accessibility for People with Hearing Impairments

Microsoft Teams provides an inclusive and accessible platform for users with hearing impairments. The platform incorporates a range of features designed to facilitate communication and collaboration for these users, ensuring they can participate fully in the digital workplace.

Key Accessibility Features in Microsoft Teams for Hearing Impairments:

Live Captions in Meetings

Teams offers live captions during meetings, assisting users who are deaf or hard of hearing.

How to Use: Users can enable live captions to see real-time text of the spoken content during meetings.

Transcription Services

Automatic transcription services are available for recorded meetings, providing a text version of the audio content.

Access: Users can access transcriptions post-meeting, which can be useful for review and reference.

Visual Notifications and Alerts

Teams provides visual notifications for incoming calls, messages, and alerts.

Benefit: This feature ensures users with hearing impairments are aware of incoming communications and updates without relying on audio cues.

Adjustable Volume Controls

Volume controls in Teams allow users to adjust audio levels to suit their individual needs.

How to Adjust: Users can easily manage volume settings during calls and meetings to optimize their listening experience.

Chat and Messaging Features

The platform's chat and messaging capabilities offer an alternative to audio and video communication.

Usage: Users can communicate effectively through text, which is essential for those who prefer or require visual communication methods.

Compatibility with Hearing Aid Devices

Teams is compatible with hearing aid devices and other assistive listening systems.

Integration: Users can connect their hearing aid devices to their computer or smartphone to use with Teams.

Visual Indicators for Sound

Teams includes visual indicators for sound in videos and other media, helping users identify audio elements.

Functionality: This feature helps in understanding content where audio plays a significant role.

Sign Language Video Windows

Teams supports the use of sign language interpreters in video meetings, with dedicated video windows for interpreters.

Implementation: Users can pin sign language interpreter videos for easy viewing during meetings.

4.2.1 Exercises

Activity 1: Enabling Live Captions in Microsoft Teams Meetings

Objective:

To activate live captions during Teams meetings for real-time text display of spoken content.

Steps:

- Join a Teams Meeting:

Open Microsoft Teams and join a scheduled meeting.

- Enable Live Captions:

Look for the option to enable live captions in the meeting controls.

Select it to turn on real-time captioning.

- Follow Along with Captions:

Read the captions as they appear to follow the meeting discussion.

Activity 2: Accessing Transcription Services for Recorded Meetings

Objective:

To use transcription services for reviewing the text version of recorded meetings.

Steps:

- Access a Recorded Meeting:

Find a meeting that has been recorded in Microsoft Teams.

- View Transcription:

Open the recording and access the transcription feature.

Read through the transcribed text for a complete understanding of the meeting content.

Activity 3: Utilizing Visual Notifications and Alerts

Objective:

To set up and use visual notifications for calls, messages, and alerts.

Steps:

- Go to Settings:

In Microsoft Teams, access your settings or preferences.

- Enable Visual Notifications:

Adjust settings to enable visual notifications for calls, messages, and other alerts.

- Monitor Notifications:

Keep an eye on the screen for visual indicators of incoming communications and updates.

Activity 4: Adjusting Volume Controls in Teams

Objective:

To manage volume settings during calls and meetings to suit individual hearing needs.

Steps:

- During a Call/Meeting:

Participate in a call or meeting in Teams.

- Adjust Volume:

Use the volume controls to set the audio to a comfortable level or mute it if unnecessary.



Activity 5: Communicating via Chat and Messaging

Objective:

To use chat and messaging for effective communication in Teams.

Steps:

- Open Chat Feature:

In Microsoft Teams, navigate to the chat section.

- Start a Conversation:

Initiate a chat with a colleague or respond to existing messages.

- Engage in Text-Based Communication:

Continue conversations using text, sharing information and updates.

4.6 Resources

Accessibility tools for Microsoft Teams

<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/accessibility-tools-for-microsoft-teams-2d4009e7-1300-4766-87e8-7a217496c3d5>

Top 15 Microsoft Teams accessibility features

<https://www.nasstar.com/hub/blog/microsoft-teams-accessibility-features>

Quick guide to Microsoft Teams: Accessibility

<https://nptcgroup.libguides.com/c.php?g=684015&p=4882789>

5. Canvas LMS



Canvas LMS (Learning Management System) is a widely adopted online learning platform used in educational institutions worldwide. Developed by Instructure, Canvas provides a comprehensive and user-friendly environment for both instructors and students to enhance the educational experience. It's particularly known for its flexibility, intuitive design, and robust set of tools that cater to various teaching and learning needs.

One of the key strengths of Canvas LMS is its clean, intuitive user interface, which simplifies navigation and makes it easy for users to find and access course content. This user-friendly design is crucial for encouraging engagement and ensuring that both teachers and students can focus on learning rather than navigating a complex platform.

Canvas offers a range of features that support interactive and collaborative learning. Instructors can create and manage course materials, assignments, and quizzes. The platform also supports a variety of multimedia content, allowing for a richer, more engaging course experience. Additionally, its discussion forums and messaging tools enable effective communication and collaboration among students and between students and instructors.

Integration with third-party tools is another area where Canvas excels. The platform integrates with a multitude of educational tools and services, including video conferencing tools, plagiarism detection software, and various content management systems. This flexibility allows institutions to tailor the platform to their specific needs and preferences.

Canvas also provides robust assessment and feedback tools. Instructors can use these tools to track student progress, grade assignments, and provide timely feedback. The analytics and reporting features in Canvas offer valuable insights into student performance and engagement, aiding educators in identifying areas where students might need additional support.

Accessibility is a cornerstone of Canvas LMS. The platform is designed to be accessible to all users, including those with disabilities. It adheres to web accessibility standards, ensuring that educational materials are available to everyone, regardless of their physical or technological constraints.

5.1 Accessibility for People with Hearing Impairments

Canvas LMS strives to provide an inclusive learning environment for all users, including those with hearing impairments. The platform incorporates various features to support these users, ensuring their full participation in educational activities.

Closed Captioning in Videos

Canvas supports closed captioning for videos, providing text for spoken dialogue and other relevant sounds.

How to Access: Closed captions can be enabled in video settings. Instructors are encouraged to include captions in all their video content.

Transcripts for Audio and Video Materials

Alongside closed captions, transcripts of audio and video content are available, detailing spoken words and other audio cues.

How to Access: Transcripts can usually be found linked below the video or audio material or provided as downloadable documents.

Visual Alerts and Notifications

For announcements, updates, or any notifications, Canvas ensures visual alerts are present, so users with hearing impairments are not reliant on audio signals.

Usage Instructions: Users can customize notification settings to receive alerts via email, SMS, or on-screen notifications.

Sign Language Interpretation Compatibility

Canvas can be used alongside sign language interpretation services during live sessions or in pre-recorded materials.

How to Use: Users or institutions can integrate sign language interpreters into live video sessions or provide sign language interpretation in pre-recorded videos.

Adjustable Volume Controls

For those with partial hearing, Canvas provides adjustable volume controls in all audio and video content.

How to Adjust: Volume controls are accessible within the video or audio player on Canvas, allowing for easy adjustments.

Real-Time Messaging and Chat Tools

Canvas offers real-time messaging and chat tools for communication, which is crucial for users who cannot rely on auditory communication.

Usage Instructions: These tools are available in course navigation and can be used for direct communication with instructors or peers.

Vibratory Alerts for Mobile Devices

When using Canvas on mobile devices, users with hearing impairments can opt for vibratory alerts for notifications.

How to Enable: This can be set up in the Canvas mobile app's notification settings, enabling vibration for incoming alerts.

5.2.1 Exercises

Activity 1: Enabling Closed Captioning for Videos in Canvas

Objective:

To activate closed captions for videos within Canvas courses.

Steps:

- Access a Video in Canvas:

Open a course in Canvas and play a video.

- Enable Closed Captions:

Look for the caption settings in the video player and select to turn on closed captions.

- View Video with Captions:

Watch the video, reading the captions to follow the dialogue and other audio cues.

Activity 2: Accessing Transcripts for Audio and Video

Objective:

To locate and use transcripts for audio and video materials in Canvas.

Steps:

- Find Audio/Video Content:

In your course, select an audio or video file.

- Access the Transcript:

Find the link or document for the transcript below the media player and open it.

- Follow Along:

Read the transcript while listening to or watching the content.

Activity 3: Customizing Visual Alerts and Notifications

Objective:

To set up visual notifications for important updates and announcements in Canvas.

Steps:

- Adjust Notification Settings:

Go to your account settings in Canvas and navigate to notifications.

- Customize Alerts:

Choose how to receive notifications (email, SMS, on-screen) and set up visual alerts as preferred.

Activity 4: Integrating Sign Language Interpretation

Objective:

For users or educators to incorporate sign language interpretation in Canvas sessions.

Steps:

- Plan a Live Session or Video:

Schedule a live session or create a video for a course.

- Include Sign Language Interpreter:

Arrange for a sign language interpreter to be present in the video or live session.

- Access the Session/Video:

Watch the session or video, focusing on the interpreter for understanding.

Activity 5: Adjusting Volume Controls in Canvas

Objective:

To manage audio levels in Canvas audio and video content.

Steps:

- Play Audio/Video Content:

Access a piece of media within Canvas.

- Adjust Volume:

Use the volume controls in the media player to set a comfortable level.

Activity 6: Using Real-Time Messaging and Chat

Objective:

To communicate effectively through text using Canvas messaging and chat.

Steps:

- Access Messaging Tools:

Navigate to the chat or messaging feature in your course.

Participate in Conversations:

Engage in class discussions or direct messaging using text.

Activity 7: Setting Vibratory Alerts on Mobile Devices

Objective:

To enable vibration notifications for Canvas alerts on mobile devices.

Steps:

- Access Mobile App Settings:

Open the Canvas mobile app and go to settings.

- Enable Vibratory Alerts:

Adjust the notification settings to enable vibration for incoming alerts.



5.6 Resources

Best Practices for Canvas Accessibility:

https://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/wp-content/uploads/sites/24/2020/03/SSD-CANVAS-Best-Practices_2020.pdf

Canvas – Accessibility:

<https://oit.colorado.edu/services/teaching-learning-applications/canvas/canvas-accessibility>