

Universal Design for Learning Tips

Course Design

- Post information about course logistics and assessments early and in multiple places.
- Use Canvas modules to design the course.
- Post slides on Canvas before class.
- Ensure Canvas readings are accessible PDFs.
- Select textbooks with an e-text option.

Student Engagement and Collaboration

- Increase communication with students using Canvas announcements, emails, and/or discussion boards.
- Vary participation with scaffolding: written reflection, partner share, small group.
- Provide students time to respond and to practice.

Class Time and Structure

- At the beginning of each class, randomly assign a note taker to take notes and post them to Canvas after class.
- Frame each class with an agenda and/or clear goals to create structure and a sense of purpose.
- Shorten class time and increase office hours options and modalities (in person, remote).
- Pre-record what you can for review online to save time for activities and discussions.
- Invite guest speakers and students to lead discussions.
- Shift content delivery often with more than one form of representation.
 - o Auditory option (adjustable speed, captions, transcript)
 - o Visual option (alt text, image descriptors)
 - o Digital option (accessible files)

Assignments

- Provide choice (e.g., exam, paper, choice assignment).
- Allow students to choose how they complete an assignment.
- Increase the number of assignments and decrease their point values.
- Scaffold longer assignments and provide feedback throughout.