# Hack the Gap:

MAKING YOUR COLLECTIONS AND INSTRUCTION ACCESSIBLE FOR ALL

### Who we are

Theresa Borchert, Electronic Resources Librarian



Virginia Connell, Coordinator of Library Instruction



Carl B. Ylvisaker Library

Concordia College, Moorhead, MN

# Our Students

### Our Students

(Gose "Disability Experts")

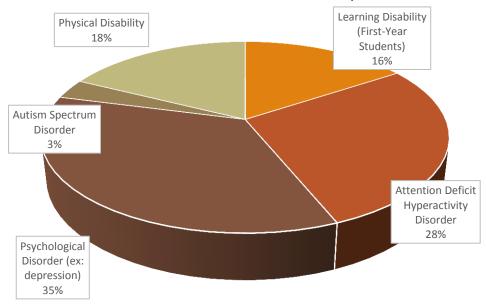
#### U.S. Department of Education:

- 11% of college students have a disability
- Of those 2/3 have an "invisible" disability (ADHD, depression, learning disabilities, emotional disabilities, etc.)

#### Complicating factors:

- Many students do not ask for accommodations
- Many professors do not feel accommodations are justified

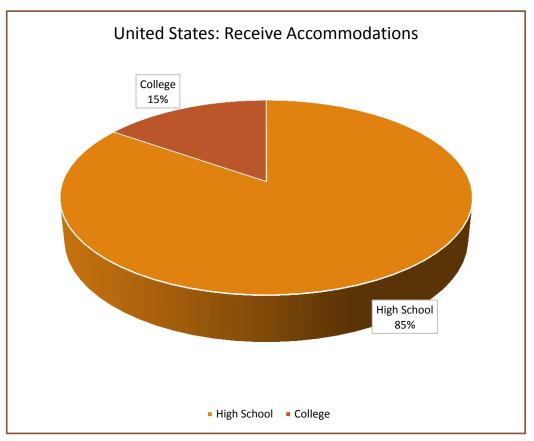
#### **UCLA Annual Freshman Study**

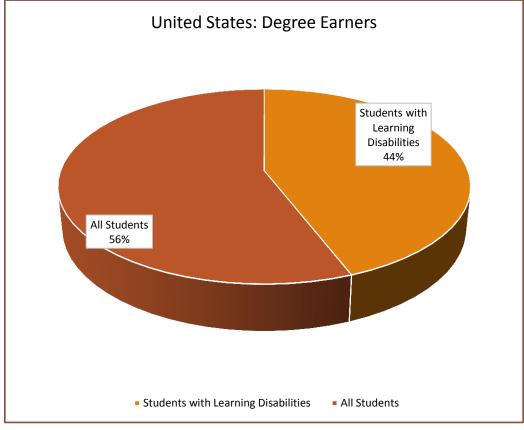


- Learning Disability (First-Year Students)
   Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- Psychological Disorder (ex: depression)Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Physical Disability

### Our Students

(Gose "How One College")





# Working Vocabulary

## Working Vocabulary

- Universal Design in Instruction (UDI)
- Learning Styles (visual, aural, verbal, logical, physical, solitary, social)
- Accessibility
- Visible Disabilities
- Invisible Disabilities
- Differently Abled Handicapped
  - Vision Impairment, blind
  - Hear Impairment, deaf
  - Speech Impairment, dumb
  - Reading Impairment, dyslexia
  - Organizationally challenged: Executive Function Issues
  - On the Spectrum, autistic
  - Motor Impairment: fine motor, gross motor
  - Physical limitations: wheelchair, cerebral palsy

- Instruction:
  - Chunking
  - Clustering
  - Mnemonics
- Tech
  - Coding
  - OCR, PDF, HTML
  - Screen Readers
  - Image readers
  - Audiobooks, Talking Books, read out loud functionality

# Homework

## Analysis of Need

- Background Reading
- Investigation of local population needs (students and faculty)
- Analysis of e-holdings for accessibility
- Evaluation of teaching pedagogies



## Develop Relationships

### Counseling Center and Disability Services

- Workshops & Coffee Hour
- Identification of students with differing abilities (with permission from students)
- Software
  - Dragon Naturally Speaking Software
  - OpenBook
  - Adobe Acrobat Pro
  - Magic
- Librarian Tools
  - List of installed software (description/tutorials)
  - Signage

#### Academic Enhancement & Writing Center

- In-library tutoring
- Workshops on student status platform

#### Registrar

- Advising workshops
- Student Success Collaborative advising tool

#### •IT

- Software installation
- Printer locations & accessibility

#### Residence Life

Student behaviors & trends

### Counseling Center – Psychology Resources in the Library

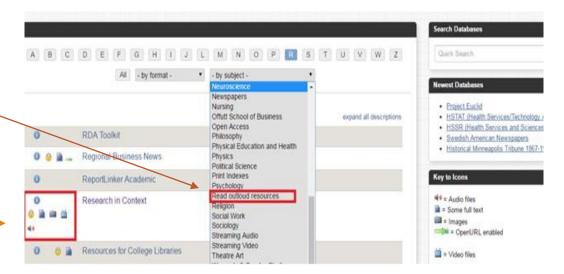
#### Counseling Center - Psychology Resources in the Library The Curriculum Center & most public Concordia main collection is arranged by Library of Congress libraries are arranged by Deviey Decimal Tri-College 8F Psychology 150 Psychology GN Ethnic Psychology 152 Perception, emotions, drives MOUNK HM Social Psychology 153 Mental processes & intelligence RA 421-790 Public Health 154 Subconscious & altered states WorldCat Concordia RC 321-576 Neurology and 155 Developmental psychology Psychiatry 156 Comparative psychology LARL Moorhead 158 Applied psychology Search groups of indexes or a specific one from the alphabetical list EBSCO Megafile - Academic Search Premier, Business, MasterFile and Regional Business News See 'Help' to setup an account, save searches and get journal alerts. RSS feeds . HSRProj (Health Services Research Projects in Progress) a database of citations to research-in-progress funded by federal, state, private organizations, and foundation grants and contracts. Psycinfo PubMed Central Social Services Abstracts Sociological Abstracts Full-text collections: Medline Plus HSSR (He alth Services/Sciences Research Resources) as earchable database of information about research datasets and instruments/indices. Compare characteristics of some of the resources. includes brief descriptions of research resources and links to PubMed. It also includes URLs of providers for additional information or access to the resources. HSTAT (Health Services/Technology Assessment Texts) a free full-text electronic resource for health care decision making. Credo Reference Online choose Psychology LearningExpress Library · PRINARTICLES Science Direct: Elsevier - Over 600 full-text journals and indexes APA link to full-text with Find it. Sage Reference . Sage elourne collection . Testing and Education Reference Center practice tests and courses, including PRAXIS, TDEFL, GRE, GMAT, LSAT, MCAT, NCLEX and US Citizenship. Tools to find and manage citations . Ctation Linker - plug in citation information from a bibliography to locate a resource eJournal Finder - A-Z listing for eJournals . RefWorks - Manage your citations, and help build bibliographies. Examples of references works in Psychology Annual review of psychology BF30.A56 print (v. 6, 1955- ) online (v. 47, 1996- ) Dictionary of developmental disabilities terminology Ref RJ135 .D53 2011

# E-Resource Access

### E-Resource Functions

Subjects Plus list allows sorting alphabetically, by discipline, by format, and by tool function in order to increase choice and use. Users may choose "Read Aloud resources."

Icons next to the name of the database highlight available functions

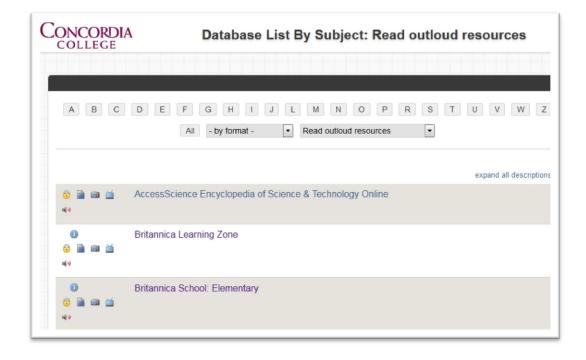


## SubjectsPlus and Accessibility

**ROLL OVER AUDIO ICON** 

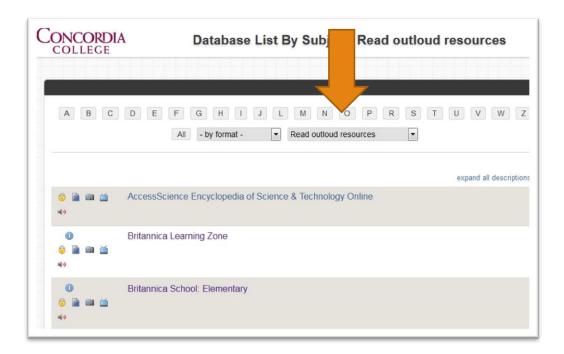


#### READ ALOUD RESOURCES

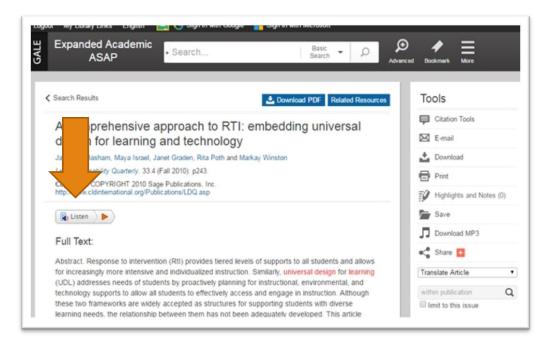


## E-resources functionality

LIBRARY RESOURCES: LIMIT TO READ ALOUD



#### AVAILABILITY OF READ ALOUD FUNCTION

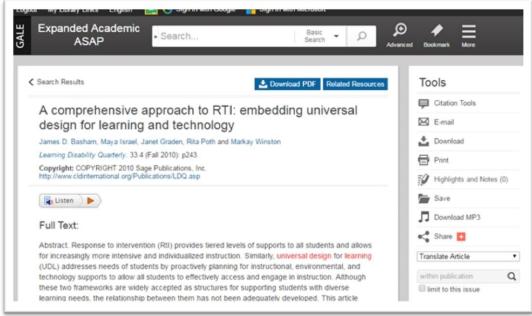


## Database functionality comparison

ACADEMIC SEARCH PREMIER (EBSCO)

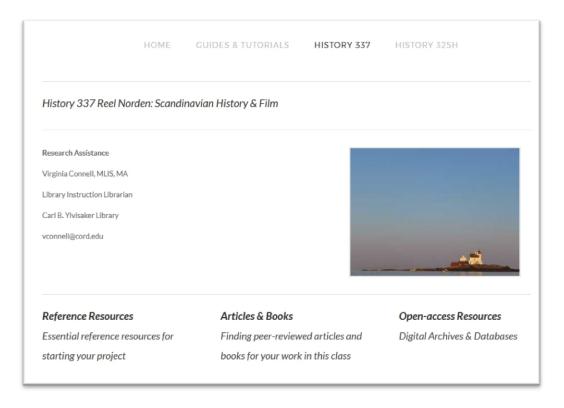
**EXPANDED ACADEMIC INDEX (GALE)** 





## Web Accessibility: Screen Readers

#### **INAPPROPRIATE**



#### **APPROPRIATE**

#### Disability Resources

#### Resource centers

Disability.gov US federal government information for people with disabilities

ASEC Area Special Education Cooperative in Northwest Minnesota

Education, Minnesota Department of Education: Minnesota Braille and Talking Book Library

Education, North Dakota Department of Public Instruction includes links to Vision Services and School for the Deaf

Human Services, Minnesota department of: includes Autism and Services for people with disabilities

Human Services, North Dakota department of: includes Autism and Services for people with disabilities

National Library Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped includes link to Search the Catalog and BARD

#### Resources

Americans with Disabilities Act - rights for people with disabilities - U.S. Dept. of Justice

Closing the Gap - trade journal on adaptive technology for disabilities

 $\frac{College\ Resources\ for\ Students\ with\ Disabilities\ guidebook}{NTN-Narrative\ Television\ Network} - Affordable\ Colleges\ Online\ to\ help\ students\ transition\ to$ 

Pacer Center - Parent Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights - Minnesota

Signing Savvy - video clips of some sign language vocabulary

#### Computer Accessibility

 $\underline{\textbf{Cheat sheets}} \text{ one-page accessibility resources to assist in creating accessible content.} - National Center on Disability and$ 

Making your Website accessible ACRL Tech Connect

The Trace Center research, development, and resource center

Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) including Policies relating to Web accessibility

#### Product & Company links

Freedom Scientific - Blind and low vision products

MariATDS com Catalog of products for vision having mobility and more

## Web Accessibility: Screen Readers

#### F-RESERVES: SCANNED BOOK IMAGE

#### Universal design for learning



#### Chapter Outline

Introduction 130
Barriers to learning 131
Principles of universal design for learning 132
Applying UDL to the learning environment 133
The role of technology in implementing UDL 134
UDL and the need for accommodation 135
Conclusion 136

In the sciences, we're very accustomed to extremely didactic presentations. Particularly in graduate school, we don't attend lectures as much as we sit in on seminars—indeed, as instructors, many of us don't give lectures as much as we give seminars. A one-way download of information from us as the instructor or presenter, to the students and other trainees. To some degree, this is understandable—it's how we present information at conferences, and how we're taught to tell stories in the sciences. Perversely, once we get out of the undergraduate teaching labs. It's also how we're taught to learn.

Over more than twenty years in science, as a student, as teaching staff, and as a researcher, I've borne witness to some impressively egregious teaching styles. One faculty member would literally read his tremendously detailed handouts out to the class, word for word without inflection. Others would be at the exact opposite end of the spectrum, flashing incredibly dense and totally unreadable slides (even for the fully sighted students!) on the screen for a maximum of 15 seconds at a time, anticipating we'd absorb all the details by some miracle of knowledge transference. I've seen faculty members by away from interaction during class, because it interrupted the flow of their presentation. I've seen other faculty refuse to consider alternative approaches to teaching, because they'd been doing it a certain way for their whole career.

None of these individuals employed universal design for learning approaches. Now, in their defense, UDL was, during my undergraduate education and my Master's, still in its infancy, and not very well known.

The only problem for me? I can't teach the way I was taught. Maybe it has something to do with having a disability myself, but I felt the urge in developing my teaching style to be more universal. I thrive on student engagement and interaction. The Socratic method

#### SCREEN READER RESULTS FOR SCANS

BLANK

BLANK

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## Take-aways for e-access

#### **AVAILABLE RESOURCES**

**Articles** 

Books

**DVDs** 

Streaming video

Digital files

eReserves

Print/online

**Online Tutorials** 

#### **MODIFICATIONS IN ACCESS**

Use resources that have listen options

Provide book retrieval options as needed

Check video files for transcript options

Check eReserve PDFs in resource to see if they are readable with a Screen reader before posting to a class resource page

Create course web pages that allows ease of access.

Use and/or create tutorials with alternative access options.

Be on the lookout for changes in technology and interface access options within databases

## Changing Technologies

Current & Old School:

JAWS/OpenEyes

MAgic

**Dragon Naturally Speaking** 

OpenBook

Recorder

**GPS** 

Adobe Acrobat Pro

Adobe Acrobat Device (table-top camera)

New School:

Phone Apps

Examples for a vision-impaired person:

- Google Maps
- Recordium
- Compass
- Megalight
- Scanforme

Activate Accessibility features on device

- Camera
- Siri

# Instruction Access

USING PRINCIPLES OF UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING IN THE CLASSROOM

### Student Behaviors

- Ear toward you
- Looking at your mouth
- Avoiding eye contact
- Distracted
- Fidgety, antsy
- Irritable or demanding
- Wanting to take over the conversation
- Shy or quiet
- Note student "gear" or clothing (a hat might be shielding from florescent lighting; hearing aids or tinted glasses; a hooded sweatshirt may provide security)
- Reading out loud/"self-talking" through a task/using other aids for concentration



## Universal Design for Instruction (UDI)

- 1) Equitable use
- 2) Flexibility in use
- 3) Simple, intuitive instruction
- 4) Perceptible information
- 5) Tolerance for error

- 6) Low physical effort
- 7) Room modifications
- 8) Co-learning
- 9) Instructional goals

(Chodock and Dolinger, p. 27)

## 1) Equitable Use

#### Aim:

Instruction is useable by all students – if not possible, what other means of instruction might provide equal access?

### Examples:

- Online course guides
- Handouts
  - Font style & size
  - Printing vs. cursive
- Oral instruction
  - Use of a whiteboard/projection screen
  - Facing the class



### Accessibility: Fonts

### **COMIC SANS**

(MICROSOFT 2013)

Hack the Gap: Making Your Collections and Instruction Accessible for All

Theresa Borchert, E-Access Services
Virginia Connell, Instruction Coordinator
Carl B. Ylvisaker Library
Concordia College, Moorhead, MN

### **DYSLEXIE**

(BOER 2017)

### Hack the Gap:

Making Your Collections and Instruction Accessible for All

Theresa <u>Borchert</u>, E-Access Services Virginia Connell, Instruction Coordinator Carl B. Ylvisaker Library Concordia College, Moorhead, MN

### 2) FLEXIBILITY IN USE

#### Aim:

Instruction appeals to a range of learning styles & abilities

#### Examples:

- Active learning that engages senses
  - Be aware of noise levels
  - Avoid requiring use of only one sense
- Preview lesson plan
- Repeat questions
- Ask questions of students

### 3) SIMPLE, INTUITIVE INSTRUCTION

#### Aim:

Accessible style and language that follows the stated lesson plan

#### Examples:

- Link skills taught to the specific assignment of the class
- Let students steer topic choice for discussion
- Avoid "library-ese" or acronyms

### 4) PERCEPTIBLE INFORMATION

#### Aim:

Essential information is provided in instruction, being mindful of the physical environment or students' sensory needs

#### Examples:

- Focus on usability features of databases or websites
- Note availability of accessibility features of databases or websites (in a way that includes all students)
- Be succinct with directions
- Use paper, online, oral, whiteboard formats to communicate information

#### 5) TOLERANCE FOR ERROR

#### Aim:

Instruction will allow for a variety of levels of ability and work-time needs

#### Example:

- Build lesson plans to include one-third to one-half of the session as individual work time, with librarian available as guide-on-the-side
- Consider allowing work to be turned in "by the end of the day" or another later deadline than the end of class

### 6) LOW PHYSICAL EFFORT

#### Aim:

Avoid physical exertion that will diminish attention or understanding of the instruction

#### Examples:

- Build in effort-saving tools, such as one-click access to printing, citation-management options, etc.
- Avoid duplicative tasks

### 7) ROOM MODIFICATIONS

#### Aim:

Create your lesson plan with students' physical abilities and room limitations in mind

#### Examples:

- Seating arrangements for solo or group work
- Lighting modifications
- Sound adaptations
- Ease of ingress and egress

#### 8) CO-LEARNING

#### Aim:

Lesson plan creates easy opportunities for co-learning between students and between faculty and students

#### Examples:

- Work with faculty beforehand to create diverse and versatile instruction
- Foster collaboration between students in the class
- Make obtaining a follow-up research-help session both easy and customary
- Allow for and encourage email research assistance

### 9) INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

#### Aim:

Create a classroom and lesson plan that recognizes strengths in everyone and that maintains everyone has value to contribute

#### Examples:

- In discussion ahead of the library session, develop a specific learning goal or two for the session with faculty
- Reward different learning styles
  - Class interactions may be verbal (using a whiteboard) or non-verbal (using clickers and projector), social or independent, etc.

## Take-aways for instruction

### Small changes can make a big difference

- Flexible lesson/work plan reveals UDI in action: all students benefit
- Independent or group work options: Students on the spectrum, verbal learners, visual learners, social or solitary learners
- Digital & print options: Students with fine motor control difficulties, ADHD, dyslexia
- Multiple reinforcements of the instruction goal (whiteboard, oral explanations, hands-on application of learning, digital and print tools & resources): all students benefit

- Chunking, clustering, mnemonic devices: Students with ADHD, Executive Function problems, dyslexia, or on the spectrum
- Previewing the lesson and being predictable: Students on the spectrum, with ADHD, with dyslexia

### Building lessons using UDI will benefit all:

- Decrease library anxiety
- Increase the chances of a rewarding library session
- Make other learning more successful as you scaffold students' skills

### UDL & IL Framework Parallels

### Resourceful & Knowledgeable

- Bring considerable prior knowledge to new learning
- Activate that prior knowledge to identify, organize, prioritize, and assimilate new information
- Recognize the tools and resources that would help them find, structure, and remember new information
- Know how to transform new information into meaningful and useable information

#### Strategic & goaldirected

- Formulate plans for learning
- Devise effective strategies and tactics to optimize learning
- Organize resources and tools to facilitate learning
- •Monitor their progress
- Recognize their own strengths and weaknesses as learners
- Abandon plans and strategies that are ineffective

### Purposeful & motivated

- Are eager for new learning and are motivated by the mastery of learning itself
- Are goal-directed in their learning
- •Know how to set challenging learning goals for themselves
- Know how to sustain the effort and resilience that reaching those goals will require
- Monitor and regulate emotional reactions that would be impediments or distractions to their successful learning

### Resourceful & Knowledgeable:

- Searching is strategic
- Information creation is a process

#### **Strategic & goal-directed:**

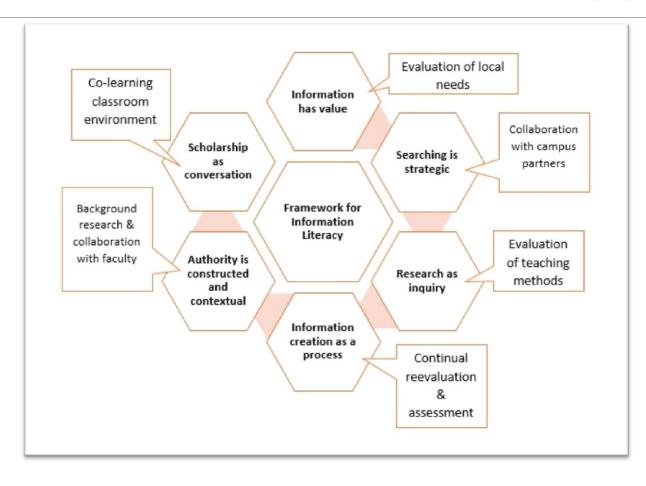
- Research as Inquiry
- Searching is Strategic

#### Purposeful & motivated:

- Research as inquiry
- Information has value

(ACRL and "UDL and Expert Learners")

### UDL & IL Framework: Our Process (ACRL)



# To-Do List

### @ The Carl B.

- Creating immediate-feedback options for library session learning tasks
- Investigate introvert/extrovert learning styles in order to build more diverse lesson plans
- In-house librarian and staff development to increase knowledge of UD, especially for instruction, tech, & services
- Update and enhance collaboration between IT, Counseling Center, and Library, based on changes in staff and systems
- Work to find and use online tutorials with captioning
- Making the library site more accessible & posting an accessibility statement
- Creating a library policy regarding accessibility (with connections to other policies, such as Collection Development, Services, etc.)



## Co-learning Q&A

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### Thanks!

For the Simulator Kits for Impaired Vision:

North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind

500 Stanford Road

Grand Forks, ND 58203

www.visionservices.com

For lots of advice and suggestions:

Family members and people we have collaborated with through the years.