

Transcript

Instructional Materials: ADA

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I think one of the more frustrating parts of course development for me was making sure that the materials were ADA compliant. I'm currently having some orthopedic issues that make it very important for me that the entire rest of the world be ADA compliant, so I relate to this.

It's very hard. I would find wonderful things that I wanted to use, but they didn't have closed captioning. They didn't have transcriptions. I had to have all my articles approved instead of posting them on my course website, which I am totally used to doing, to make sure that it was the right kind of PDF so that it could go through a reader.

I've had students who have used readers. I understand this. It was like, "Oh, my gosh, this is one more thing I have to do." It was frustrating. It takes a little bit more time than you ever can imagine. I know it is worth doing. I think it is important.

I learned something else at the conference that I went to last summer, too. The biggest users of closed captioning are people who are speaking English as a second language. We are trying very hard to be inclusive in education now. Of course, that makes total sense that if you see the transcription or see the closed captioning, it will be easier to understand.

There are different ways of learning as well, too. ADA compliance is very important, but it can be stressful, more than anything, to get it all put together. I do think it's worth doing. That's my feelings on it.

One of the things that surprised me the most was, interestingly, how many things aren't ADA compliant and how they need to be.