

Digital Accommodation

Strategies for making BSU's website more accessible

Andre Cutair, Web Content Specialist University Relations and Marketing, Bowie State University 2016

Disability Defined

What is a disability?

U.S. federal law defines disability as ... "a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities." (U.S.C, §12102)

Life activities include: "seeing, hearing ... learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating, and working."



Disabilities That Can Impair Access

What disabilities can prevent people from successfully accessing our website?

- Visual limitations
- Mobility limitations
- Hearing limitations
- Cognitive limitations



Visual Limitations

Some types of limitations

- Chronic or temporary vision loss (fatigue, optomological treatments, &c.)
- Color blindness
- Partial or complete blindness



Event: desktop view

Fairly easy to read on desktop, but ...



Organization chart: mobile view

... too small to read on mobile.





Organization chart: mobile view

A better solution for mobile



Strategy: Enlarge items on the screen

How to magnify your web browser (and other) screens

- Ctrl+Shift+Plus sign
- Ctrl+scroll wheel
- Browser controls
- Page controls (A A A) <u>pablind.org</u>
- Magnifying software



Visual Limitations: Visibility Issues

Strategy: Use adaptive software

Popular screen reading software

- JAWS (Job Access With Speech) for Windows (c. \$1k)
- VoiceOver for iOS (included)
- TalkBack for Android (included)



Visual Limitations: Visibility Issues

Demo: JAWS



Visual Limitations: Non-text Elements

Image on page: no alternative text Screen readers (and search engines) can't identify this image. Why not?

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Faculty Profile Form

Web Communications

Interviews



We take interviews personally. They are our best way of getting to know you and a great way for you to learn more about Wake Forest.

Whether face-to-face or via webcam, it is our priority to put a personality with a name in our search for future Wake Forest students. The interview prevides us with a personal and unrehearsed component to the dimissions process while offering prospective students the opportunity to tell us about something we might not learn from an application.

In our personalized application and merit-based scholarship review process, the interview plays an important role in how we make decisions. Interviews are conducted by members of the Admissions Committee only. We will begin interviewing first year applicants for the Fall 2016 term on June 1. Prospective students are not required to have submitted an application for admission in order to schedule an interview.

Because open appointment slots become limited in the fall, scheduling an interview during the summer months is strongly encouraged. In addition to interviews on campus, webcam interviews are offered throughout the summer and are evaluated no differently than those conducted on campus.

Visual Limitations: Non-text Elements

Image on page: no alternative text

No image description has been provided.

Page Header			
Interviews			
Page Content			
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about Wake	Forest.	it is our priority to put	ter on campus.
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Visual Limitations: Non-text Elements

Image on page: alternative text provided Screen readers (and search engines) can identify this image.

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In our personalized applicati Source http://www.bowiestate.edu/files/resources.



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Mobility Limitations

Some types of limitations

- Temporary impairment (sprains, broken bones, fatigue, &c.)
- Chronic impairment (Arthritis, MS, ALS, &c.)
- Permanent impairment: congenital defects, missing limbs



Mobility Limitations: Content

BS in Religious Studies: desktop view Viewable on a single page on desktop, but ...

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B.S. in Religious Studies

Required Courses

A Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies requires 60 units of course work, distributed as follows:

- Two courses (at least 3 units each) from courses numbered 1-49, including approved Thinking Matters or Introductory Seminars. IHUM courses with Religious Studies content taught prior to 2012-13 also fulfill this requirement.
- Two courses (at least 3 units each) from courses numbered 50-99.
- Three integrative courses (at least five units each) as follows:
 - 1. Majors' Seminar (5)
 - Majors Seminar (Winter Quarter of junior year; fulfills WIM requirement; letter grade only)
 - 3. Senior Essay or Honors Thesis Research (5)
 - Senior Majors' Colloquium (5)Senior Colloquium (Spring Quarter; grading option S/NC)

Additional Regulations

- Variations to the required distribution of courses under 1 and 2 above may be approved by the Director of Undergraduate Studies on an individual basis.
- All units must be in Religious Studies courses unless an exception is made by the Director of Undergraduate Studies.
- No more than ten units of the total 60 may be taken for the grade of 'S/NC' or 'CR/NC.'
- Students may not take all courses in one religious tradition.

At least 24 of the remaining units should be in courses numbered 100-289. At least two of these courses should be 200-level seminar courses.

Mobility Limitations: Content

BS in Religious Studies: mobile view ... at least four screens on mobile.



Students may not take all courses in one religious tradition.

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Mobility Limitations: Content

BS in Religious Studies: mobile view Groups similar content on a single web page when possible.



B.S. in Religious Studies

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- No more than ten units of the total 60 may be taken for the grade of 'S/NC' or 'CR/NC.'
- 4. Students may not take all courses in one religious tradition.

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Hearing Limitations

Some types of limitations

- Degrees of deafness (hard of hearing, completely Deaf)
- Language barriers (written English vs. ASL, &c.)



Hearing Limitations: Captioning

Miss CIAA competition video #1 No captions offered



Hearing Limitations: Captioning

Miss CIAA competition video #2 Ineffective captions offered



Hearing Limitations: Captioning

Miss CIAA competition video #3 Effective captions offered



Cognitive Limitations

Some types of limitations

- Temporary limitations (concussion, stress/distraction, fatigue, &c.)
- Chronic or permanent cognitive disabilities



Cognitive Limitations: Content

Tuition and fees schedule: dense layout How much for out-of-state undergrad taking 6 credits?

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SPRING 2016 MAIN CAMPUS TUITION AND FEE SCHEDULE*

Eligibility - Pergared for all degree serving societies
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 Graduate students enrolled in 6 or more campus based credithours
Charges and Credits - Assessed to all student accounts meeting the eligibility requirements
 Fall 2016 and Spring 2016 charge - \$863.50 per semester
+ Gredits to accounts are issued once ECU receives notice of an approved waiver

Walvers - Visit <u>www.bobsnc.com/EGU</u> to apply for a valver + Fabruary 1, 2016 - Last day to apply for a valver + Visit <u>www.acu.edu/studenth-ealth</u> for more information

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FURN PAGE FOR SPECIAL NOTICES, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES 🔿

Cognitive Limitations: Content

Tuition and fees schedule: clear layout Fee information easy to find



Cognitive Limitations: Unclear Layout

Archived issues of a school magazine Problem with left-to-right, top to bottom order

January 1935	February-March 1939	March-April 1943	June 1950
March Edition 1935	June 1939	September-October 1943	December 1950
Commencement Edition [May-June] 1935	October 1939	November- December 1943	December 1951
December 1936	December 1939	February-March 1944	April 1952
March 1937	February-March 1940	May-June 1944	June 1953
June 1937	October 1940	November 1944	June 1955
October 1937	November 1940	March 1945	December 1959
December 1937	December 1940	June 1945	January 1961
February 1938	April-May 1941	May 1946	March 1967
September-October 1938	June 1942	June 1948	October 1967
November-December 1938	October-November 1942	June 1949	

Cognitive Limitations: Unclear Layout

Archived issues of a school magazine Correct left-to-right, top to bottom order, but what about mobile?

January 1935	Commencement Edition [May-June] 1935	December 1936	March 1937
June 1937	October 1937	December 1937	February 1938
September-October 1938	November-December 1938		



Cognitive Limitations: Unclear Layout

Archived issues of a school magazine

Best, desktop AND mobile-friendly solution



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Accessibility for the Future

What's ahead for BSU?

• 508 Compliance

Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 requires agencies to make their electronic technology accessible to people with disabilities. Failure to comply can have fiscal consequences.

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• Beyond 508

Fewer barriers to people with disabilities encourages greater enrollment and greater retention at our university. This is good for everyone: potential students, new students, veteran students, and the BSU community (faculty and staff).

Accessibility for the Future

What resources are available?

- Section508.gov <u>section508.gov</u>
- WCAG Web Content Accessibility Guidelines <u>w3.org/TR/WCAG20</u>
- VPAT Voluntary Product Accessibility Template -<u>itic.org/policy/accessibility</u>



Questions and Discussion

bowiestate.edu/accessibility



