## **Inclusive Pedagogy: Benefiting ALL Learners**

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### **ABSTRACT**

**Inclusive Pedagogy: Benefiting ALL Learners** 

The prevalence of students with disabilities and learning differences attending college is steadily increasing. This calls for a reform among educators to adjust their teaching practices to serve this diversity of learners more effectively. Traditional methods of addressing disability and learning differences within the college classroom put the responsibility on individual students to request accommodations and adapt their learning to the outlined course requirements. Inclusive pedagogy creates learning that is "meaningful, relevant, and accessible to all." This represents an institutionwide shift in mindset and responsibility toward creating content, instructional delivery, and assessments that are accessible, equitable, and beneficial for everyone. This presentation hopes to outline how post-secondary education has dealt with disability historically and how it should continue to advance in understanding and utilization of best teaching practices, such as the inclusive approach, to support all students.

## **Teaching Diverse Learners**

#### **Contingent Approach**

- Most prevalent
- Accommodations
- Student-Driven

Student performs to the **best of their ability** within an **existing** system.

#### **Alternative Approach**

- All for ONE
- Adaptations
- Shared Responsibility

Adapting content based on *disability status*.

#### **Inclusive Approach**

- Diverse Learners
- Equity in Learning
- Beneficial to ALL

Promotes *every* learner to achieve and does not create any *additional* barriers.

# WHY? INCLUSIVE PEDAGOGY

## "Inclusive pedagogy creates learning that is "meaningful, relevant, and accessible to all."

(Awang-Hashim et al., 2019; Lawrie et al., 2017)

## DIVERSITY AT UTAH STATE

#### **CULTURE/LANGUAGE**

Utah State serves students from more than 69 countries.

(USU, 2022)

#### **AGE**

Undergraduate students' average age is 21, and graduate students' average age is 30.

(USU, 2022)

#### **DISABILITY**

Approximately 20% of undergraduates & 12% of grad students report having a disability.

(National Center for Education Statistics, 2018)

#### **ENROLLMENT**

35% of students are part-time students.

(USU, 2022)

#### **EDUCATION**

56% of undergraduates nationally were first-generation college students.

(RTI International, 2019)

#### **SES**

25,383 students were awarded federal aid for Utah State University.

(FAFSA, 2022)

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

MAKE A
COMMITMENT
TO INCLUSION

BE CONSCIOUS
OF CURRICULUM
DESIGN &
CONTENT

USE INCLUSIVE TEACHING & ASSESSMENT PRACTICES

## INCLUSIVE STRATEGIES

#### **MAKE A COMMITMENT**

- Philosophy of Accessibility
- Plain Language
- Acknowledge Ineffective Practices
- Advocate for Inclusive Practices
- Lessen Barriers

#### **CURRICULUM DESIGN**

- Be Transparent
- ❖ Focus on Strengths
- Emphasize Key Ideas & Content Relationships
- Scaffolding Assignments
- Embrace Diversity of Learners

#### **TEACHING & ASSESSMENT**

- Provide Information in Multiple Formats
- Flexible Pace
- Pre-Assessment
- Assessment Options
- Canvas Accessibility
- Make connections to students' lives

#### **Other UDL Resources**

- ★ UDL on Campus: http://udloncampus.cast.or g/home#.Wm8jmq6nGUk
- ★ UDL Self Assessment + reflection: <a href="https://www.tea">https://www.tea</a> ching.unsw.edu.au/gettin g-started-udl
- ★ UDL Basics: <a href="https://udlguidelines.cast.">https://udlguidelines.cast.</a> org/
- ★ UDL & Icecream? <a href="https://www.youtube.com/">https://www.youtube.com/</a> watch?v=xzwhewT8uBc

#### **UDL ON CAMPUS**

Universal Design for Learning in Higher Education



When it comes to learning, variability is the rule not the exception. Universal Design for Learning (UDL) is an educational framework that guides the design of learning goals, materials, methods, and assessments as well as the policies surrounding these curricular elements with the diversity of learners in mind.

For more information go to UDL in Higher Ed



http://udloncampus.cast.org/home#.Wm8jmq6nGUk

## Thank you!

Any questions?

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