



# 2025 Faculty Development Week

*Canvas Content:  
Tips for Improving  
Student Accessibility*



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# Welcome

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# 2025 Faculty Development Week

## *Canvas Content: Tips for Improving Student Accessibility*

### *Intended Outcomes*

- Access the Ally Accessibility report for their Canvas course(s) to identify potential accessibility issues.
- Use the Canvas accessibility checker on any Rich Content Editor (RCE) item in their Canvas course(s) to identify accessibility issues.
- Review and edit transcripts/captions for videos in their EchoVideo Library.

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*Canvas Content: Tips for Improving Student Accessibility*

## *Related Upcoming Professional Development Sessions*

- Friday, February 7, 2025 @ 1:00 PM  
**Accessibility Checkers in Microsoft Applications** (S. Houston)
- Tuesday, March 4, 2025 @ 2:00 PM  
**UH Online Digital Accessibility Training Course – Overview and Introduction** (A. Grass)
- Thursday, March 13, 2025  
**Ally: The Accessibility Tool in Canvas** (N. Noman)

*Register for your virtual or in-person seat via  
[IDT@uhcl.edu](mailto:IDT@uhcl.edu).*

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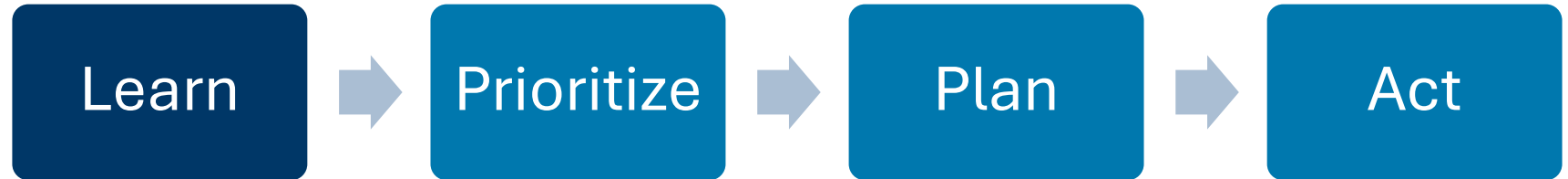
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*Canvas Content: Tips for Improving Student Accessibility*

*Conquering the Challenge*



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## *Canvas Content: Tips for Improving Student Accessibility*

### *Prior Knowledge Check*



**In the Zoom Poll on the screen, please select any of the following options that reflect your familiarity with the following accessibility features in Canvas.**

- A. I use or have previously used Ally.
- B. I use or have previously used the Canvas Accessibility Checker.
- C. I use or have previously used EchoVideo to provide transcripts or captions for my video lectures and related content.
- D. I have heard about one or more of these tools, but I've never used them.
- E. It's all new to me.



# Canvas Accessibility Tool #1

Anthology Ally

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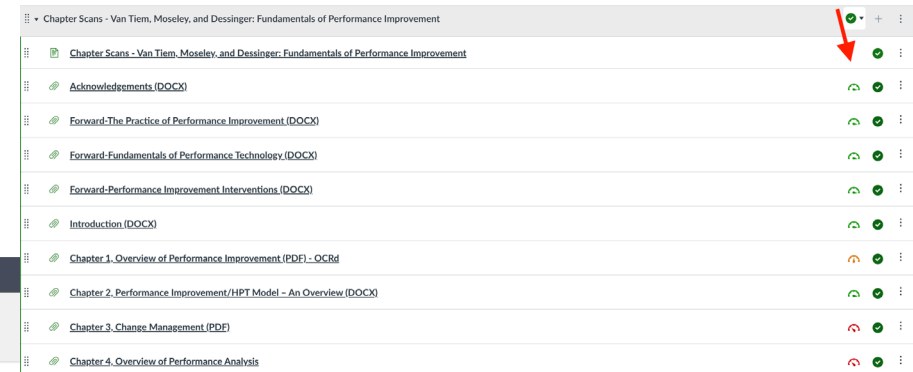
## *Canvas Content: Tips for Improving Student Accessibility*

### *Ally Micro Overview*

- **Ally Accessibility Report**
- Accessibility Indicators
- Alternative Formats

text\_forward1\_practice\_accessible.docx

[Download text\\_forward1\\_practice\\_accessible.docx \(17.8 KB\)](#) | [Alternative formats](#)



Chapter Scans - Van Tiem, Moseley, and Dessinger: Fundamentals of Performance Improvement		
Chapter Scans - Van Tiem, Moseley, and Dessinger: Fundamentals of Performance Improvement		
Acknowledgements (DOCX)		
Forward-The Practice of Performance Improvement (DOCX)		
Forward-Fundamentals of Performance Technology (DOCX)		
Forward-Performance Improvement Interventions (DOCX)		
Introduction (DOCX)		
Chapter 1: Overview of Performance Improvement (PDF) - OCRd		
Chapter 2: Performance Improvement/HPT Model - An Overview (DOCX)		
Chapter 3: Change Management (PDF)		
Chapter 4: Overview of Performance Analysis		



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## *Canvas Content: Tips for Improving Student Accessibility*

### *Ally Course Accessibility Report*

- **It's in all Canvas shells, but instructors need to put it onto their course menu to access it.**
- Ally is actively scanning all content in all Canvas courses...all the time.
  - Removing old unused and duplicate files is often a quick way to improve a course's accessibility score.
  - New content will be reflected in the Ally system within 24 hours.

## *Let's Take a Look!*

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## *Canvas Content: Tips for Improving Student Accessibility*

### *Let's Talk Accessibility!*



The ID team and I are going to mute our speakers and give everyone 3 minutes to share with each others your initial thought on how you might use Ally to guide your digital accessibility effort.

Once we return to the group, we'd love to hear from a few individual volunteers who are will to share their Learn, Prioritize, Plan, Act ideas.

# Canvas Accessibility Tool #2

Canvas RCE Checker

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## Canvas RCE Checker

# EchoVideo Captions

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## *Canvas Content: Tips for Improving Student Accessibility*

# Canvas Accessibility Checker Overview

The Canvas Accessibility Checker is built in and automatically evaluates any content that you add via Canvas' Rich Content Editor interface.

## Pages

## Discussion Instructions

## Assignment Instructions

## Quiz Instructions

Home

Announcements

Syllabus

Modules

Zoom LTI 1.3

Grades

People

Togetherall Peer Support

New Analytics

Discussions

Echo360

Ally Course

Accessibility Report

Pages

Files

Outcomes

Rubrics

Page Title

Welcome Message

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## *Canvas Content: Tips for Improving Student Accessibility*

### *Canvas Accessibility Checker Overview*

The Canvas Accessibility Checker is built in and automatically evaluates any content that you add via Canvas' Rich Content Editor interface.

- If you type text directly into the Canvas RCE and use built-in headings, your content will very likely pass the checker with flying colors.
- If you do a lot of copy/paste between Word, Google Docs, etc., into the Canvas RCE, make sure to use the Accessibility Checker!

## *Let's Take a Look!*

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*Readiness Check*



**In the Zoom Poll, please select the option that best reflects your status regarding starting your digital accessibility plans.**

- A. I'd like more information, but I'm not ready to dive into accessibility.
- B. I'd like to meet with my ID to start planning to address accessibility in my courses.
- C. I'll reach out via IDT@uhcl.edu when I'm ready to learn more.
- D. I don't think I'll be able to work on content accessibility any time soon.



# Canvas Accessibility Tool #3

EchoVideo  
Captions/Transcripts

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## *Canvas Content: Tips for Improving Student Accessibility*

### *EchoVideo Micro Overview*

EchoVideo is UHCL's approved application for creating, storing, and deploying instructor-created video content for use in Canvas.

- Universal Capture (Classroom and Personal)
- Video Uploads/Zoom Cloud Recordings

- 
- Basic Editing
  - Embedded Questions (Polling)
  - Student Engagement Data
  - **Captions/Transcripts**

- 
- Hyperlink
  - Embedded Videos
  - EchoVideo "Course" Link

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## *Canvas Content: Tips for Improving Student Accessibility*

### *Don't Rely Only on Technology!*

EchoVideo is UHCL's approved application for creating, storing, and deploying instructor-created video content for use in Canvas.

- Providing captions and transcripts is a great start toward digital accessibility. However, **you must still review your videos for instances in which you present images, charts, tables, etc. that you don't also fully describe in the narration!**
- Beware phrases such as "As shown on this slide" or "As shown here" in your captions and transcripts. They can alert you to instructionally critical graphics that need to be made clear, especially for students with low or now vision.

# Closing Thoughts/Reminders

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*Canvas Content: Tips for Improving Student Accessibility*

*Conclusion*

DIGITAL ACCESSIBILITY MATTERS!	TOOLS AND SUPPORT	LEARN, PRIORITIZE, PLAN, AND ACT
Ensures inclusivity for all. Enhances usability and the user experience.	UHCL provides three tools that work with or within Canvas to identify and address accessibility issues.	You've completed the first step! IDT team members are standing by to support you on the journey ahead.



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*Closing Thoughts... Questions?*



OIT's Instructional Design and Technology (IDT) team is a great place to start your journey toward accessibility and inclusivity in your Canvas courses

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“On behalf of OIT's Instructional Design and Technology (IDT) team, thank you for attending or watching today's presentation. We hope to see you at other events we offer, and we invite you to contact our team with any instructional design and instructional technology questions!”

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*IDT Contact Information*

“For the fastest response,  
please email our team  
directly at [IDT@uhcl.edu](mailto:IDT@uhcl.edu).”

## Office of Information Technology

### What's New?

Classroom Technology	▼
Computer Labs	▼
Course Development	▼
OCIO	▼
Self Help	▼

The mission of the Office of Information Technology is to provide learning opportunities, enable research, and...



### Services

Technical/computer related services.



### Self Help

Complete list of self guided documentation.

### About OIT

Learn more about our team!

## OIT Support Center

Bayou 2300  
2700 Bay Area Blvd.  
Houston, TX 77058-100  
Phone: 281-283-2828  
[supportcenter@uhcl.edu](mailto:supportcenter@uhcl.edu)

## Fall/Spring/Summer Hours of Operation

Monday-Thursday: 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Saturday: 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Sunday: Closed

## Semester Break Summer/Winter Hours of Operation

Monday-Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Saturday-Sunday: Closed

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# THANK YOU!

