



Preparing Accessible Documents

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Students are diverse



```
Behavior |
of the given cell c
which the behavior is acting
c) |
// START DEFINITION HERE
getNext(c, b, get());
// END DEFINITION HERE
```





In order to be accessible, web content must be:

- Perceivable
- Operable
- Understandable
- Robust

Source: W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0, <http://w3.org/TR/wcag20>

What makes an electronic document accessible?

- Draft Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Standards and Guidelines (U.S. Access Board)
- An update to Section 508 Standards
- Include standards on Electronic Document Accessibility
- <http://access-board.gov/508.htm>

Some Highlights:

- Text alternatives for non-text content
- Information, structure, & relationships
- Descriptive headings

HTML

- Highly structured language
- Possible for authors to create highly structured documents
- Possible for authors to create documents with little or no structure
- Structure is well-supported by AT
- Structure facilitates navigation for AT users (and has many other advantages)

Microsoft Word

- Heading structure possible through *styles and formatting*
- Alternate text can be added to images.
- No HTML-like accessible table structure
- Structural information (e.g., headings, alternate text) is communicated to AT
- Most structure is passed on to other file formats when documents are exported

Adobe PDF

- Three general types:
 - Image
 - Image with embedded fonts
 - Tagged (optimized for accessibility)
- Accessibility depends on how document was created
- Accessibility can be added later using Adobe Acrobat Pro

Resources

- My blog: Accessible Documents in HTML, Word, and PDF
 - <http://tinyurl.com/ttdocs>
- WebAIM
 - Creating accessible Microsoft Word docs
<http://www.webaim.org/techniques/word>
 - PDF Accessibility
<http://www.webaim.org/techniques/acrobat/>
- California State University PDF Tutorials
 - <http://tinyurl.com/y2dnyl2>

Resources

- Adobe Accessibility:
 - <http://www.adobe.com/accessibility/>
- DO-IT
<http://washington.edu/doit>
- AccessComputing
<http://washington.edu/accesscomputing>
- These slides
<http://staff.washington.edu/tft>

Let's talk more...

- Tuesday, September 21
- 1:00 – 3:00pm
- Haggard 122
- An informal gathering to discuss:
 - Web accessibility @ WWU
 - My longitudinal research on web accessibility at higher education institutions in the Northwest