"This OLC workshop fulfilled the need for me to further develop an understanding of ADA regulations as they pertain to college courses in an online environment."

Heather Burke, English Faculty, Hondros College of Nursing (HCN)

"The ADA self-paced workshop provides a strong overview of accessible course design and guides participants through each aspect of ADA, enabling them to build the foundation necessary for developing an inclusive online learning environment."

Improve Accessibility: Create an Environment for Success for All Students

How did you hear about the OLC ADA self-paced workshop?
I heard about the OLC’s ADA Self-Paced Workshop through HCN’s Dean of Academic Affairs, and I felt that it would be the perfect opportunity to further my knowledge of accessibility in a distance learning environment, enabling me to share what I have learned with other HCN faculty members.

Why the need/interest in the OLC ADA self-paced workshop?
While I have some formal education in special education, the vast majority of my experience with student accessibility came from teaching, particularly developmental courses. As such, there was a need for me to further develop an understanding of ADA regulations as they pertain to college courses in an online environment. I wanted to be able to play an active role in improving accessibility for all HCN students.

How did the workshop help you in your position/career?
The lessons and resources played a significant role in the efforts to improve online course accessibility. After completing the workshop, I was able to share what I had learned with other faculty members, building the foundation for a universal understanding of accessibility and its benefits to our students.

To whom and why you would recommend the OLC ADA self-paced workshop? I would recommend this workshop to faculty and staff who have an interest or role in improving accessibility in the online classroom. Designing courses with accessibility as a key priority is a way for everyone involved in online education to create an environment that promotes student success.

TOP 5 BENEFITS OF THIS WORKSHOP:
1. Understanding how ADA functions within the online classroom and guides instruction and design choices
2. Distinguishing between visible and invisible disabilities and identifying the accommodations best-suited for individual accessibility, as well as the key differences between those provided at the K-12 and higher education levels
3. Revising my personal approach to online education to incorporate a stronger focus on Universal Design for Learning
4. Sharing what I learned with my colleagues and collaborating to improve course accessibility for all students
5. Gaining access to quality lessons that simplified key concepts and invaluable resources that continue to professionally aid me on a regular basis

About Heather
I am a faculty member and Online Quality Subcommittee Chair at Hondros College of Nursing (HCN). In both roles, my goal is to ensure that all students have access to high-quality, engaging curriculum and the resources necessary for success.

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