Standard 24

Use of Tables

Overview

"When possible, information is displayed in a linear format instead of as a table."

This standard is about the use of tables to represent information in course documents and in online course design in Blackboard.

Practices

- When possible, avoid tables and present information in a linear format using lists (e.g., bulleted list) since tables are problematic for assistive technology, such as screen readers. Tables should be used for organizing data that cannot be displayed any other way.

Example

Example 1 Linear Table

Day and Time	Location
Tuesday, 9:00 am – 9:50 am	Knight

Location

- Tuesdays, 9:00 am-9:50 am, Knight

If you can avoid using tables to represent information, such as a schedule, it is better to do so.

Additional Resources

- Accessible Tables Tutorial (from W3C)
- Tables (Yale University)
- WebAim Tables
- OSCQR Standard 24

Visit https://www.ccri.edu/onlinefaculty to learn more about OSCQR rubric and sign up to participate in a course review.

This standard aligns with the following federal guidelines:

This standard supports **ADA** accessibility guidelines and **Sections 504 and 508.** Accessible table design allows screen reader users equal access to information. Tables should not be used for text layout, instead they should be used for data. Tables often present complex data relationships, so following web accessibility guidelines for table markup (rows and headers designation) is crucial.

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