

Accessibility and Digital Environments

- **What:** An unconference session at [DHSI](#) (Digital Humanities Summer Institute) 2015
- **When:** Wednesday, June 10 2015: 12:15-1:15
- **Where:** [MacLaurin D109 \(Here's a map.\)](#)
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Overview

This Google Doc is an open, editable resource for session participants to create, grow, and edit during DHSI 2015.

Disability, Accessibility, and the Web

- [“How People with Disabilities Use the Web,”](#) from the W3C Web Accessibility Initiative
- [“Considering the User Perspective: A Summary of Design Issues,”](#) from WebAIM.
- [“Introduction to Web Accessibility,”](#) from WebAIM. Pay special attention to the section titled “Principles of Accessible Design.”
- [“25 Ways to Make Your Website Accessible,”](#) by Dennis Lembree.

Tools for evaluating accessibility

- [WAVE Toolbar:](#) from WebAIM, an extension originally designed for the Firefox browser. A version for Chrome is also available. Very user-friendly, but not as customizable or as detailed as HTML_Codesniffer.

- [HTML CodeSniffer](#): a bookmarklet that works with almost any browser. Very detailed, customizable, but not as user-friendly as WAVE Toolbar.
- See also: [Web Evaluation Tools List](#) from the W3C Web Accessibility Initiative.

Working with WordPress

- [“WordPress Codex: Accessibility,”](#) from WordPress.org. A basic introduction with links for more information.
- [WordPress Accessibility Team](#), developers working on various related projects.
- [“Accessibility-Ready” WP Themes](#): These themes have been evaluated and approved by the WP Accessibility Team. Of course, you’ll still need to make sure that the content you add to your site is accessible.
- [“WP Accessibility Plugin,”](#) by Joe Dolson. “Can help non-technical site owners correct a variety of technical accessibility issues within many WordPress themes.”
 - [An overview and explanation of the various plugin features](#)
- [“Access Monitor Plugin,”](#) by Joe Dolson. “Runs an automated scan of your site using the Tenon.io web accessibility service.”

Working with Omeka

- [“Omeka Codex: Theme Writing Best Practices,”](#) from Omeka.org. If you plan to create your own custom theme (or modify an existing one), these guidelines are useful.
- Plugins
 - [“PDF Text,”](#) by Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media. “Extracts text from PDF files so they can be browsed and searched.”
 - [“Access Keys Plugin,”](#) by Cory Bohon. Creates keyboard navigation shortcuts to enable users to get from section to section easily and quickly.
 - [“Zoom It,”](#) by Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media. “Embeds a Zoom.it image viewer into item show pages.”
- [“Omeka a11y,”](#) by Temple University Libraries. “Omeka 2.2.x core and core themes with front-end enhancements for web accessibility ”

Additional Reading & Resources

- [“Accessibility,”](#) from the W3C. A good introduction to the why, what, and how of Web accessibility.
- [“All technology is assistive,”](#) by Sara Hendren
- [“Disability, Universal Design, and Digital Humanities,”](#) by George H. Williams
- Jonathan Lazar, Paul Jaeger, [“Reducing Barriers to Online Access for People with Disabilities,”](#) *Issues in Science and Technology*(Winter 2011), 69-82.
- [“Responsive Web Design,”](#) by Ethan Marcotte
- [“Accessibility in HTML5,”](#) by Clarissa Peterson

- HTML5Accessibility.com
- Michael Guill, “[Creating an Accessible Web Infographics](#)”
- Clarizza Fernandez, “[How to Create an Accessible Infographic](#)”
- *Universal Design for Web Applications: Web Applications That Reach Everyone*, by Wendy Chisholm & Matt May. Sebastapol, CA: O’Reilly Media, 2008.
- *Pro HTML5 Accessibility*, by Joshue O Connor. Berkeley, CA: Apress, 2012.
- *HTML5 for Web Designers*, by Jeremy Keith. New York, NY: A Book Apart, 2011.
- *Responsive Web Design*, by Ethan Marcotte. New York, NY: A Book Apart, 2011.
- *Designing with Web Standards*, by Jeffrey Zeldman. 3rd edition. Berkeley, CA: New Riders, 2009.

Hosting Services

- Reclaim Hosting is a great service to use with students, you can get web hosting for \$25/ year for students: <https://reclaimhosting.com/shared-hosting/>
- Other commercial services like Dreamhost will cost around \$10/ month or \$120 / year
- See “Website Hosting 101,” by Julie Meloni (2009) <http://ow.ly/O9pSm>

Universal Design for Learning (UDL)

- Jay Dolmage, great ideas about making our classrooms more accessible to everyone: See <http://dsq-sds.org/article/view/627/804> and <http://uwaterloo.academia.edu/JayDolmage>
- Tweeting a class can also help students who can’t attend for reasons of health / mental health: <https://floatingacademy.wordpress.com/2015/03/17/twitter-in-the-victorian-studies-classroom/>
- CAST <http://www.cast.org> provides a great deal of valuable resources on UDL



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