

# Who's Responsible for Accessibility in Online/Blended Courses

Accessibility is a shared responsibility. Adhering to web accessibility guidelines while developing your online/blended course will benefit all students, including those with visual, hearing, mobility, and learning disabilities.

Instructors	Center for Teaching Innovation (CTI) (formerly Academic Technologies & Center for Teaching Excellence)	Student Disability Services (SDS)
<p>As the subject matter expert, the instructor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Designs and develops</b> clear course structure and organization.</li> <li>● <b>Creates</b> accessible course documents. See: <a href="https://disability.cornell.edu/sensusaccess-intro.cfm">https://disability.cornell.edu/sensusaccess-intro.cfm</a></li> <li>● Uses <b>Captioned</b> media (audio/video) where possible (can work with CTI to arrange captioning).</li> <li>● <b>Uses</b> alternative text descriptions for images, graphs, and tables.</li> <li>● <b>Ensures</b> that software and web applications used in the course are accessible.</li> <li>● <b>Works with</b> SDS and/or Academic Technology to make course materials accessible.</li> </ul>	<p>As online/blended course development consultants, CTI:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Provides</b> accessible course design and development consultation.</li> <li>● <b>Reviews</b> existing and new courses for best practices and quality standards in accessibility.</li> <li>● <b>Facilitates</b> the captioning process for course video and audio materials.</li> <li>● <b>Assists</b> with determining which course materials may need to be made accessible.</li> <li>● <b>Provides</b> recommendations for guides, tools, and information on how to make course materials accessible.</li> <li>● <b>Provides</b> Blackboard Course Template accessibility statement/resources.</li> </ul>	<p>As the support service for student accessibility, SDS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Determines</b> eligibility for disability services through review of documentation and assessment of individual student needs.</li> <li>● <b>Disseminates</b> information to instructors regarding reasonable accommodations for students.</li> <li>● <b>Facilitates</b> academic and environmental accommodations and services.</li> <li>● <b>Educates</b> the campus community about disability issues.</li> <li>● <b>Assists</b> Cornell students with disabilities to ensure access to the same opportunities as their peers with the greatest degree of independence possible.</li> </ul>

For more information, please contact: [sds\\_cu@cornell.edu](mailto:sds_cu@cornell.edu) or visit: Student Disability Services <http://sds.cornell.edu/Faculty/index.html>