Syllabus Design Resources

Overview

The course syllabus communicates more than just due dates and contact information. You can set a tone of respect and inclusivity in your classroom by providing a syllabus that includes the Cañada College disability accommodation statement and by ensuring an accessible and usable format. When writing a course syllabus, faculty members can take explicit steps to embrace the abilities of the students that will be in their class by thinking through the following components:

Related Resource Pages

📊 Course Templates	📊 Accessibility and Accommodation	📊 Universal Design for Learning (UDL)	📊 Canvas Course Management

Designing Your Syllabus

- Apply accessibility best practices to create accessible syllabus documents
- Using a welcoming and inclusive tone
- Place emphasis on student learning
- Supportive and understanding course policies
- Make instructions and expectations clear regarding activities and assignments
- Use first person and positive language to increase approachability
- Include your contact information, preferred method of contact, and anticipated response times
- Address a wide range of language skills as you write content (e.g. spell acronyms, define terms, avoid or define jargon)
- Regularly reviewing our syllabi for updates in language, policies and tone, as well as content