

Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and Language Teaching

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Goals

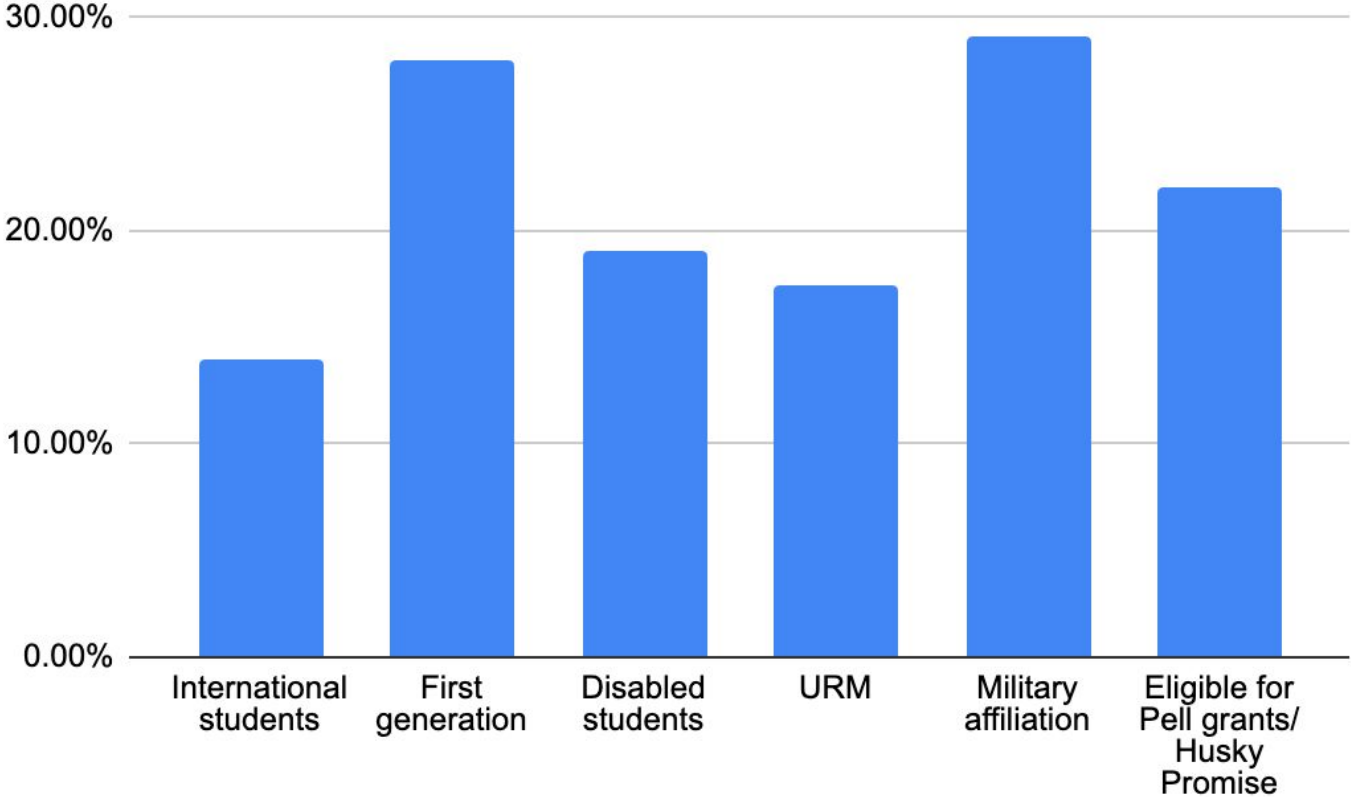
1. Discuss the concept of Universal Design for Learning (UDL)
2. Explore ideas and strategies for its application in language teaching

Guiding Principles

In this session, we will strive to create a space where:

1. Everyone participates and gets a chance to offer their thoughts
2. Everyone listens to one another
3. Everyone is open to this process and engages with colleagues

UW Students



Question

- What do you already know about Universal Design for Learning (UDL)?
- Choices:
 1. Write on your device/ paper
 2. Put it in chat
 3. Raise your hand

Definition

- UDL = framework to help us design courses that
 - lower barriers
 - maximize learning for all students
- Formal definition from CAST:

UDL is a framework to improve and optimize teaching and learning for all people based on scientific insights into how humans learn

“MULTIPLE”

3 principles - provide **multiple** means of:

- Engagement
- Representation
- Action & Expression

Example

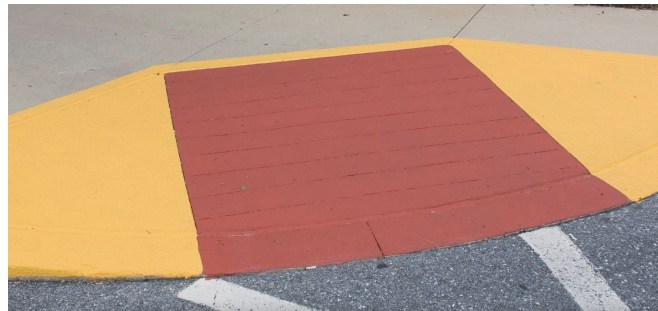
Captioned videos:

- A must for deaf people
- Useful for:
 - L2 English speakers
 - Commuting students
 - Students without a private study space

What UDL is

An approach that encourages us to design for the margins to:

- Include as many people as possible
- Lower barriers
- Reduce the need for accommodations



What UDL isn't

- Not a set of fixed practices that we can all employ all the time
- Not a "design for the average student" practice. What works for one student will not work for the entire class
- Not just about accessible materials. **BUT** new Justice Dept. [rules](#) for ADA/Title II - all web content & mobile apps should follow [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\) Version 2.1, Level AA](#)

UDL Quote

“UDL maintains rigor, while lowering barriers to accessing learning”

-- Thomas Tobin, UDL expert

Reflection

- What is one key aspect of UDL that stuck with you or was new to you?
- Choices:
 1. Write on your device/ paper
 2. Put it in chat
 3. Raise your hand

Implications for language teaching

- What does “multiple” mean for language teaching?
- Multiple means of:
 1. Engagement
 2. Representation
 3. Action & Expression

Resources

- [Teaching@UW UDL page](#)
- [Teaching@UW Accessible Teaching Strategies](#)
- [UW DO-IT](#)
- [UW Accessibility](#) with lots of technical resources from [Accessible Technology Services](#) on making content accessible, including PDFs
- [CAST:](#)
 - [Key Questions to Consider when Planning Lessons](#)
 - [UDL Guidelines](#)
 - [About the Guidelines](#)

TEACHING @ UW

The tri-campus hub for learner-centered and reflective teaching practices

Thank you!