DES240 • Accessible Interface Design

School of Design & Communication • Undergraduate • 6 ECTS

Overview

Practice accessibility as a design and engineering constraint using WCAG principles. Students audit interfaces, design inclusive interaction patterns, document decisions for review, and produce remediation plans that are testable and maintainable.

LOGISTICS

Credits: 6 ECTS
Level: Undergraduate
School: School of Design & Communication
Prerequisites: None listed
Tags: accessibility, inclusive-design, ui
Meeting time: Weekly lecture + accessibility audit lab
Instruction mode: Audit-friendly design: document decisions and test them

LEARNING OUTCOMES

You will be able to:
- Apply WCAG-informed checks to real interfaces and produce audit reports
- Design keyboard-first interactions and accessible component states
- Communicate accessibility trade-offs and remediation plans
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ASSESSMENT

Components
- Coursework: 60%
- Final project: 40%

Students are assessed on audits (clarity and correctness), remediation proposals, and a
final accessible interface prototype. Documentation is part of the grade: others must be
able to repeat your audit.

WEEKLY PLAN

Schedule
Week 1: Week 1
  - Accessibility foundations: semantics, keyboard, focus
Week 2: Week 2
  - Color and contrast: measurable checks and exceptions
Week 3: Week 3
  - Forms and error states: inclusive validation
Week 4: Week 4
  - Components: dialogs, menus, and complex widgets

Extended outline
- Accessibility foundations: semantics, keyboard, focus
- Color and contrast: measurable checks and exceptions
- Forms and error states: inclusive validation
- Components: dialogs, menus, and complex widgets
- Assistive tech: testing methodology
- Final: audit + remediation + improved prototype

POLICIES & RESOURCES

- Use checklists, but explain results: why something fails, not just that it
  fails.
- Document all testing conditions (browser, zoom, screen reader if used).
- Academic integrity: cite any guidelines and tools used in your audit.

Suggested resources
- Audit report template (issue, evidence, impact, fix)
- Keyboard interaction patterns reference
- Form error message rubric (clarity, specificity, recovery)