Quick Tips for Creating ACCESSIBLE VIDEOS

By supporting IT accessibility, the University of California helps ensure that as broad a population as possible is able to access, benefit from, and contribute to its electronic programs and services. A key pillar of this commitment is designing and building universally accessible videos. Check your work against the following key criteria.

01 Audio
Avoid starting video or audio files automatically. This irritates all users. It’s a much better experience to wait until the video or audio is in focus for keyboard users before it starts.

02 Choices
Make sure users can stop, start, control volume, and turn closed captioning on or off. There should also be an option to choose the language when available.

03 Controls
Everything must be operable with keyboard controls, including any embedded content. Nothing should require a mouse to navigate.

04 Transcript
Provide a transcript (text version of the media content) for time-based media. Accessible transcripts should use headings, links, lists, and other structure to make navigation efficient.
Don’t confuse captions with subtitles. Captions convey text versions of the audio and descriptions of the sounds relevant to understanding the content. Subtitles are in a language other than the one spoken on screen.

Moving content longer than five seconds should have capability to be stopped, paused, restarted, and/or closed (e.g., slide decks, carousels, splash pages, rotating banners, ads, screen overlays, etc.).

Avoid blinking or flashing content. It is distracting and can trigger seizures.

Provide captions for live events that include dialogue, speaker identification, any text presented onscreen that isn’t spoken, and relevant background sounds.

Make sure your closed captions do not block other onscreen text and include speaker identification and hash marks to indicate changes in who is speaking.

For more information, visit WCAG online: https://www.w3.org/WAI/standards-guidelines/wcag/