



ICPNA



# Universal Design for Learning in the classroom

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# Let's share



What can you do to support your students with and without special needs?

Share your ideas with your elbow buddy.

# Universal Design

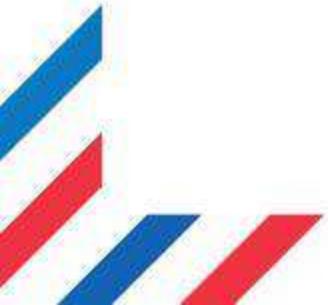
“Universal design is the design of products and environments to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design.”

(Ron Mace)



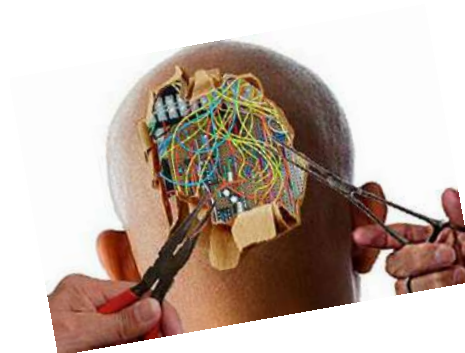
# Universal Design for Learning


- ✓ Minimizes barriers in order to maximize learning for ALL students
- ✓ Just as there are barriers in the physical environment, there are barriers in our classrooms and curriculum too.



# Universal Design for Learning

- ✗ one size fits all.
  - ✓ design for access and flexible alternatives for all!
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- ✗ think about deficiencies in students
  - ✓ think about fixing curriculum instead of fixing students.





# Variability of language learners





# UDL Design Cycle





# How to use Universal Design for Learning

## 1. Identify **barriers**:

In curriculum? Materials? What background knowledge do students have?



## 2. Identify clear **goals**:

What are the skills and concepts that we want students to master?



## 3. Plan flexible **assessments**:

How can students demonstrate achievement of the identified goals in varied ways?



# How to use Universal Design for Learning

## 4. Plan flexible **methods** & **materials**:

What supports and scaffolds can be used as part of instruction to help students acquire the content and demonstrate what they have learned?



## 5. Teach:

The standards-based lesson (s) designed with consideration of UDL



## 6. Reflect & revise:

What went well? What can be changed to reduce barriers and increase access?



# Principles of UDL

Provide multiple means of  
**representation**

## Ways to present information with technology

- Text-to-speech applications
- Videos with captions
- EdPuzzle – videos with embedded questions
- Read & Write Gold



# Principles of UDL



Provide multiple means  
of **action and expression**



## Ways to demonstrate learning

Provide options for submitting assignments

- Allow students to record their responses instead of writing or typing.
- Allow students to create a PPT, video, or Infographic instead of writing a response.
- Include verbal and written responses
- Include dialogue and activities

## Ways to Demonstrate Learning with Technology

- Online graphic organizers
- Google Slides
- Book Builder/ Book Creator
- Grammarly



# Principles of UDL



Provide multiple means  
of **engagement**



## Ways to demonstrate learning

Provide opportunities for recruiting interest

- Contextualize and make content relevant
- Use authentic texts/ tasks

Provide opportunities for group work and interaction.

- Think-Pair-Share
- Mini-Whiteboards
- Poll Everywhere

## Ways to Engage and Motivate Students with Technology

- Flipgrid for informal sharing
- Padlet for brainstorming/ sharing
- Kahoot
- Poll Everywhere



# **SUPPORTING DIVERSE LEARNERS**

1. Making input comprehensible
2. Providing support for language production and interaction
3. Providing feedback and opportunities to practice

(Torres & Rao, 2019)






# UDL FOR ELS

- Example:

Research project/ essay – **many barriers!**

Consider:

- ✓ Group research & collaborative Google slides
  - ✓ Students can read, watch videos, and interview relatives or other experts.
  - ✓ Collect information using graphic organizers
  - ✓ Create Google Slides following a guiding template
  - ✓ Students can pre-record their presentation if they are anxious about speaking in front of the class
  - ✓ Use these scaffolds to then write an essay
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“Start small and keep  
building”

(Torres & Rao, 2019)



I don't need you  
to fix me... I just need  
you to love me  
while I fix myself.



# References

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