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# Principles and Practice for Accessible Digitization

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**University of Cincinnati Libraries**

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Accessibility *is* diversity.

Accessibility *is* inclusion.

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**“One-at-a-time accommodations introduce a time delay [...] for the individual with disabilities. This time delay is a form of societal discrimination: people without disabilities have access to technology and information, but people with disabilities are placed in a ‘holding pattern...’”**

Ensuring Digital Accessibility  
through Process and Policy,  
Chapter 9

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**Why does UC Libraries  
*need* accessible  
digitized collections?**

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1. University of Cincinnati EIT Policy compliance

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2. Section 504/508, the ADA, and Libraries

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1. University of Cincinnati EIT Policy compliance
2. Section 504/508, the ADA, and Libraries
3. Moral and ethical obligations as information professionals in pursuit of diversity, equity, and inclusion

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# PDF/Universal Accessibility (PDF/UA)

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# What is PDF/UA?

PDF/UA is an ISO standard for universal PDF accessibility.

It allows those with disabilities to make the same-quality use of PDFs as people without disabilities.

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# Why PDF/UA?

The PDF/UA format meets users where they are with what they need.

- Portable
  - Accessible interface
  - Addresses readability for multiple challenges
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# How does UCL create PDF/UA?

- ABBYY Finereader
  - Adobe Acrobat Pro DC
  - Transkribus
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**The Principle:** Diverse digital collections live at the intersection of representation and accessibility.

**Our Practice:** Workflows and standards allow us to work within our limitations to create more accessible content.

**Outcomes:** Our digital collections support research and learning in an increasingly diverse and accessible way.

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# Thank you!

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# Resources

- [Ensuring Digital Accessibility through Process and Policy](#)
- [UC EIT Accessibility Policy](#)
- [Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973](#)
- [PAYAN v. LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT](#)
- [PDF/UA in a Nutshell](#)
- [UC Libraries Digital Collections Strategy](#)
- [UC Libraries Digital Collections PDF Accessibility Standards](#)
- [Transkribus](#)