Principles and Practice for Accessible Digitization

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Accessibility is diversity.

Accessibility is inclusion.
“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...’”
Why does UC Libraries need accessible digitized collections?
1. University of Cincinnati EIT Policy compliance
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2. Section 504/508, the ADA, and Libraries
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2. Section 504/508, the ADA, and Libraries
3. Moral and ethical obligations as information professionals in pursuit of diversity, equity, and inclusion
PDF/Universal Accessibility (PDF/UA)
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.
Why PDF/UA?

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

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

- ABBYY Finereader
- Adobe Acrobat Pro DC
- Transkribus
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.
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