Teaching Digital Accessibility in the Digital Humanities: Some Semi-Successful Approaches

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Agenda

This presentation will be about three ways an academic librarian has taught digital accessibility with varying levels of success and failure: a digital book about making accessible digital books, a lesson plan for a classroom discussion about WCAG, and a "cheat sheet" flier about the "Top 7 Things for Digital Accessibility."

Approach 1:
Make a Digital Book about Making Accessible Digital Books

Manifold Publishing: Key Concepts for Digital Accessibility

- [Manifold publishing platform](#) and [accessibility documentation](#)
- [University of Washington Manifold instance](#)
- [*Manifold Key Concepts for Accessibility*](#)
- Teachers having their students make [Manifold books](#).
  - Plus: At least the specific accessibility documentation exists.
  - Minus: The documentation desperately needs updating and upkeep.

Approach 2:
Let's Have a Talk about WCAG

Comparative History of Ideas (CHID) Thesis Seminar

- [Digital accessibility lesson plan for CHID](#)
- Students working on culminating theses. Could be a website, a digital book, a digital exhibit, a film, a podcast, a recording, a PDF…
  - Plus: Makes for an active discussion. Many students know a lot about digital accessibility, especially those in the Disability Studies minor.
  - Minus: The lesson plan is just a start. Doesn't really get into the practicalities of digital accessibility and WCAG 2.1AA.

Approach 3:
Teach Top Things

Textual Studies & Digital Humanities (TXTDS) Classes

- [The Top 7 Things for Digital Accessibility](#)
- Students working on websites (Google sites, WordPress, or with HTML/CSS/XML), digital exhibits (Omeka), or digital books (Manifold or Pressbooks).
  - Plus: Very practical, very manageable.
  - Minus: Too reductive? Too focused on WCAG?

Questions? Comments? Concerns? Thank you!