
Advanced Certificate in Universal Design for Disability Housing

Universal Design for Sensory Disabilities

****Acoustic Separation****

Related terms: Sound Insulation, Soundproofing

Acoustic separation is the use of building materials and design principles to prevent the transmission of sound between different spaces. This is an important principle in Universal Design for Sensory Disabilities as it helps to reduce noise pollution and create quieter, more peaceful environments for people with hearing impairments.

****Alarm Systems****

Related terms: Visual Alarms, Vibration Alarms, Accessible Alarms

Alarm systems are devices that alert individuals of potential dangers or emergencies, such as fires or intruders. In Universal Design for Sensory Disabilities, it is important that alarm systems are accessible to all users, including those with hearing impairments. This can be achieved through the use of visual alarms, such as flashing lights, or vibration alarms, which can be felt rather than heard.

****Assistive Listening Devices (ALDs)****

Related terms: Hearing Aids, Induction Loops, Infrared Systems

Assistive Listening Devices (ALDs) are devices that help individuals with hearing impairments to hear better in specific environments, such as classrooms, theaters, or public spaces. ALDs can include hearing aids, induction loops, infrared systems, and frequency-modulated (FM) systems. These devices amplify sound and reduce background noise, making it easier for individuals with hearing impairments to understand speech and other sounds.

****Braille****

Related terms: Tactile Signage, Tactile Paving, Accessible Signage

Braille is a system of raised dots that can be read by touch. It is an important tool for individuals who are blind or have low vision, as it allows them to read and access information in a tactile format. In Universal Design for Sensory Disabilities, Braille is often used on signage, elevator buttons, and other built environment features to make them accessible to individuals who are blind or have low vision.

****Contrast****

Related terms: Color Contrast, Visual Contrast, Light Contrast

Contrast refers to the difference in visual properties between two objects or surfaces. In Universal Design for Sensory Disabilities, contrast is an important principle for enhancing visibility and legibility for individuals with visual impairments. This can be achieved through the use of color contrast, visual contrast, or light contrast, such as using dark text on a light background or providing high-contrast signage.

****Haptic Feedback****

Related terms: Tactile Feedback, Vibration Feedback, Force Feedback

Haptic feedback is the use of tactile or kinesthetic cues to communicate information to users. In Universal Design for Sensory Disabilities, haptic feedback can be used to provide information to individuals who are blind or have low vision, such as through vibration alarms or tactile maps.

****Induction Loop Systems****

Related terms: Assistive Listening Devices (ALDs), Hearing Aids, Telecoils

Induction loop systems are assistive listening devices that use electromagnetic fields to transmit sound directly to hearing aids. They are often used in public spaces, such as theaters, classrooms, and meeting rooms, to improve sound quality and reduce background noise for individuals with hearing impairments.

****Lighting****

Related terms: Natural Light, Artificial Light, Task Lighting

Lighting is an important principle in Universal Design for Sensory Disabilities as it can affect visibility and legibility for individuals with visual impairments. Good lighting design includes the use of natural light, artificial light, and task lighting to provide adequate illumination for different activities and tasks.

****Sign Language****

Related terms: American Sign Language (ASL), British Sign Language (BSL), International Sign Language

Sign language is a visual-manual language that uses hand shapes, gestures, and facial expressions to communicate. It is an important tool for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, as it allows them to communicate effectively with others.

****Sound Absorption****

Related terms: Acoustic Treatment, Noise Reduction, Reverberation

Sound absorption is the process of reducing the amount of sound that is reflected off surfaces in a space. In Universal Design for Sensory Disabilities, sound absorption is an important principle for reducing noise pollution and creating quieter, more peaceful environments for individuals with hearing impairments.

****Tactile Paving****

Related terms: Detectable Warning Surfaces, Truncated Domes, Directional Tactile Indicators

Tactile paving is a type of pavement that uses textured surfaces to provide tactile feedback to users. It is often used at pedestrian crossings, railway platforms, and other hazardous locations to alert individuals who are blind or have low vision of potential dangers.

****Telecoils****

Related terms: Assistive Listening Devices (ALDs), Hearing Aids, Induction Loop Systems

Telecoils are small devices that can be installed in hearing aids to receive signals from induction loop systems. They are often used in public spaces, such as theaters, classrooms, and meeting rooms, to improve sound quality and reduce background noise for individuals with hearing impairments.

****Universal Design for Sensory Disabilities****

Related terms: Accessibility, Inclusive Design, Design for All

Universal Design for Sensory Disabilities is an approach to design that aims to create built environments, products, and services that are accessible and usable by all individuals, regardless of their sensory abilities

or disabilities. This approach emphasizes the importance of considering the needs and preferences of individuals with sensory impairments in the design process, and incorporating features and technologies that enhance accessibility and usability for all.

****Visual Alarms****

Related terms: Alarm Systems, Accessible Alarms, Visual Signals

Visual alarms are devices that use flashing lights or other visual signals to alert individuals of potential dangers or emergencies. They are an important tool in Universal Design for Sensory Disabilities as they provide a visual alternative to auditory alarms for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing.

****Vibration Alarms****

Related terms: Alarm Systems, Accessible Alarms, Vibration Feedback

Vibration alarms are devices that use vibrations to alert individuals of potential dangers or emergencies. They are an important tool in Universal Design for Sensory Disabilities as they provide a tactile alternative to auditory alarms for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing.

****Window Treatments****

Related terms: Shades, Blinds, Curtains

Window treatments are devices that cover windows to control light, privacy, and temperature. In Universal Design for Sensory Disabilities, window treatments are an important principle for enhancing visibility and legibility for individuals with visual impairments. This can be achieved through the use of shades, blinds, or curtains that provide adequate shading or glare control.