March 4, 2023

Ed-Tech Program Faculty

WESTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY

345 Monmouth Ave. N.

Monmouth OR 97361

Dear WOU Faculty,

The purpose of this training resource is to provide a working demonstration of making Microsoft PowerPoints accessible. The motivation behind developing this training resource stems from the fact that despite my nearly two decades of information technology, software development, and instructional design, where I’ve been task creating or assisting C-Level executives in the creation of PowerPoint ‘decks’, I had never been asked to make a ‘deck’ accessible. According to a survey, by Presentation Panda, eighty-nine percent of the time presentation software is chosen, Microsoft PowerPoint is selected. Whether you are a student, teacher, admin staff, or an executive, PowerPoint skills can be essential for doing business and conveying messages or perspectives. As a member of the deaf and or hearing-impaired community, the thought of implementing accessibility options in PowerPoint never crossed my mind, nor was I asked to do so by C-Level executives in which often required my deck building skills. When taking Western Oregon University’s Accessibility course, I took the opportunity to learn this process to improve my understanding of accessibility while developing within the Microsoft PowerPoint environment. Completing this project broadened my understanding on how to use Microsoft’s built in accessibility tools, furthered my knowledge and improved my understanding of its value. This training resources is disseminated or published through my [YouTube channel playlist](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL1_9w3vO2IUPEuo-mztjcD49FeHCejDC3) which is captioned.

Cheers,

Jesse R. Walter

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