Norah Sinclair

Instructional Designer and Instructional Technology Support Specialist

Location and Contact Information

Georgia Tech Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation (CIDI) 512 Means Street NW, Atlanta, GA 30318 USA

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Education and Certifications

- B.A., English, College of Charleston, 1989
- M.A., Media Arts, University of South Carolina, 1995
- K-12 Teaching License, English Education (Secondary), Columbia College, 1997
- Instructional Technology Specialist Certificate, North Carolina State University, 2009

Teaching Interests

- Utilizing user-centered design frameworks with technology integration to increase access, understanding, and action-oriented behavior for diverse users and learners. Frameworks include Universal Design for Learning (UDL), Design Thinking, Inclusive Design, and Web Content Accessibility Guidelines with a focus on learners' context, needs, and behaviors.
- Utilizing inclusive communication practices such as Plain Language, Health Literacy strategies, UX writing strategies, and Web Content Accessibility Guidelines design framework for Cognitive and Learning Disabilities.
- Implementing AI-assisted strategies for accessibility, including AI assisted image descriptions for complex images with human validation to support increased access and understanding for all users including neurodiverse learners.

Research Interests

- Implementing Universal Design for Learning (UDL) strategies through technology-enhanced instructional design to improve access and understanding for diverse learners.

- AI-assisted accessibility tools for image descriptions supporting learners with disabilities and neurodiverse learners.
- Knowledge translation: moving from information dissemination to implementation in higher education and other environments.
- Plain language strategies to reduce complexity and improve comprehension.

Publications

- *Automated, Context-Aware Alt Text Generation for Educational Documents Using Large Language Models*. In **The 27th International ACM SIGACCESS Conference on Computers and Accessibility (ASSETS '25)**
- *Inclusive Design Thinking – Model for Inclusive Course Development (2020)* Online Journal of Distance Learning Administration, v23 n4 Win 2020
- *Inclusive Design Thinking for Health Messaging in ASL during COVID-19 (2022, ATOB Journal)* Assistive Technology Outcomes and Benefits Volume 16 Issue 2, Summer 2022, pp. 74-85

Additional Resource Guides and Digital Media Selections

W3C WAI Stories of Web Users, Previous Editor

Rhonda Weiss Center for Accessible IDEA Data, Accessibility Guides, Lead Author

- Document Accessibility: Microsoft PowerPoint
- Document Accessibility: Microsoft Word
- Document Accessibility: Microsoft Excel

Accessible Education Materials, Video, Tools for Life and Georgia Department of Education, Scriptwriter and Content Developer

Core Vocabulary and AAC Systems, Video, Tools for Life and Georgia Department of Education, Scriptwriter and Content Developer

Awards and Recognitions

- Georgia Tech 2021 Staff Excellence Award as member of Georgia Tech Remote and Hybrid Teaching Academy (GTRHTA)
- Georgia Tech Accessibility Champion Recognition
- Zero Project 2018 Award (Co-Instructor, ICT Accessibility MOOC, GA Tech) AMAC/CIDI

Professional Experience

- *Instructional Designer & Content Developer, Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation, CIDI – Georgia Tech*: Designed accessible instructional materials, led UDL-focused training, and co-facilitates AccessCORPS VIP project
- *Lead Designer and Content Develop, Inclusive and Accessible Course Design*: course for Georgia Tech faculty integrating UDL and accessibility principles
- *Instructional Designer and Content Contributor, ICT100X MOOC (edX)*: Created modules on ICT accessibility for global learners
- *Accessibility Webinars and Training*: Delivered GT faculty and statewide webinars and technical assistance on document and web accessibility
- *Collaborator, Georgia Tools for Life*: Developed assistive technology video scripts, conducted usability testing, and redesigned accessibility-focused website
- *AMAC / CIDI Customer Support Supervisor and Digital Media Accessibility Specialist,* Georgia Institute of Technology
- *Instructional Technology Facilitator,* Asheville City Schools, Asheville, NC
- *Media and Computer Applications Teacher,* Buncombe County Schools, Asheville, NC