[www.cwu.edu/**Accessibility-Studies**](http://www.cwu.edu/Accessibility-Studies) **Online Certificate or Minor**

**Program Overview**

A certificate or minor in Accessibility Studies demonstrates competence in recognizing where, when, and how to include people with varying degrees of ability. Because our laws guarantee access to activities of independent living in all environments - work, home, school, shopping, medical, leisure, and virtual – this program adds value to all careers.

The four core courses constitute the 15-credit certificate. An undergraduate minor is available by adding 5 more credits which can usually be arranged as dual credit with a class in the major.

**Program Requirements**

1. **Prerequisite Courses**: There are no prerequisites for the first course, ASP 305.
2. **Required Courses: (Complete Accessibility Studies Certificate)**

ASP 305 Accessibility & User Experience ………………………………….. 4

ASP 325 Universal Design …………………………………………………………. 4

ASP 435 Accessible Information Design ……………………………………. 5

ASP 485 Accessibility Capstone ………………………………………………… 2-3

1. **Minor Requirements:** In addition to the certificate core, a minor requires 5 elective credits. Courses in the major may be proposed for dual credit consideration.

The Practicum and Internship experiences are arranged individually.

ASP 490 Accessibility Practicum …………………………………………………… 1-12

ASP 492 Accessibility internship …………………………………………………… 1-12

Other elective courses may be offered:

ASP 365 Assistive Technology: Tactile Graphics ……………………………. 3

ASP 498 Special Topics in Accessibility ………………………………………….. 3-5

***Complete the certificate in one summer session or over one school year!***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Course** | **Summer** | **Fall** | **Winter** | **Spring** |
| ASP 305 Accessibility & User Experience | X | X | X | X |
| ASP 325 Universal Design | X |  | X |  |
| ASP 435 Accessible Information Design | X |  |  | X |
| ASP 485 Accessibility Capstone | X |  |   | X |

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**FAQs for non-matriculated students interested in the Accessibility Studies Certificate**

You might not be a Central Washington University undergraduate or graduate student but you can still take courses as a non-matriculated student.

***How do you apply to the program?***This is done online at [www.cwu.edu/accessibility-studies](http://www.cwu.edu/accessibility-studies) under Prospective Students. The drop down menus encourage you to plan when you would take each course, but I am happy to work with you directly to figure that out.

***How do you register?*** You start by contacting the registrar at reg@cwu.edu . Once you have registered with the university (a $40 fee) you will be given the codes for registering for classes, another online process.

***What are the courses and when are they offered?*** You can take the three core courses in any order and even at the same time.

* ASP 305 *Accessibility & User Experience* (4 cr) is offered every quarter. No prerequisites.
* *ASP 325 Universal Design* (4 cr) is offered Summer and Winter. No prerequisites.
* *ASP 435 Accessible Information Design* (5 cr) is offered Summer and Spring. Prerequisites: ENG 101-102 or some equivalent means of establishing college level fluency.

Once those are underway, you can sign up for

* *ASP 485 Accessibility Capstone* (2-3 cr) which can be arranged individually. Pre/co-requisites: ASP 305, 325, 435.

We also arrange internships (ASP 490, 1-12 cr) that can overlap with your employment. Each credit means 40 hours of internship activity. You do not need this to complete the certificate but it is certainly helpful especially for providing extra support for the capstone project.

***How long does the certificate take?***  You can complete the certificate in one to four quarters. CWU is on a quarter system, with courses starting in Summer (June), Fall (September), Winter (January), and Spring (March). Each quarter is 10 weeks long. The final course, ASP 485, is the capstone which is arranged individually and often people take more than a quarter to complete. We also offer all four courses together in an intense summer session.

***How much work is involved?***  As far as the online course experience, all the instructors arrange synchronous meetings in order to support students, but these are rarely mandatory. The work is accomplished by independent reading and completion of online week-long modules which include interaction with others via online discussion boards.

The capstone project is a more involved investigation and formal paper. Completion of the certificate requires passing a comprehensive test of knowledge form the other three courses. However, it is open book, and you can re-take it if necessary.

***How much does it cost?*** The certificate includes four courses totaling 15-16 quarter credits. CWU tuition and fees are $240/credit plus a $40 application to the university which gets you the student ID number and access to the library and other services. Also, because the courses are online, there is an additional fee of $40 per course. The textbooks are relatively inexpensive, totaling about $200. The books are considered a library to use across the courses. Thus the total tuition and fees estimate is around $4000. Out of state students are charged the same for this online program.

***What is the curriculum?*** The four courses constitute the 15-credit certificate. Each course contributes a core of knowledge that is then applied to a project of your own design in the capstone. Please consult <http://www.cwu.edu/accessibility-studies/course-outcomes-0> which summarizes the learning outcomes for each of the courses. This is the knowledge base that is tested in the final exam during the capstone course.

***Who else takes these classes?*** Some students are pursuing their bachelors’ degrees and this is part of their Accessibility Studies Minor or part of an interdisciplinary studies major. Most, though, are interested in personal and professional development and are just seeking the certificate. Others are just taking individual courses.

The students are from all fields: teaching, law, social work, museums, recreation, computer science, human resources, communication, technology, sports management… You name it! Accessibility is applicable when people are involved.

***Who can I talk to about the Accessibility Studies Certificate?*** Contact Naomi Petersen at Naomi.Petersen@cwu.edu