Universal Access Decision Tree

**Universal Access - For all students**

- What assumptions do I make about my students in terms of preparation, skills, abilities, culture, maturity, functioning, etc.
- Am I prepared to teach people who don’t learn the way I learn or don’t respond to my preferred teaching methods?
- Are there structures in my class or methods that I use that privilege some students over others?
- What broad changes can I make that would make it easier for all to participate and engage?

**Individual exceptions and allowances – by faculty discretion**

- What individualized requests should I expect?
- What modifications and allowances am I willing to entertain on a case by case basis that won’t impact the rest of the class?
- What if I keep getting the same requests or the same areas are problematic for many students?
- Would it be better depending on the request to make a broader change so everyone can benefit?
- Should more substantial requests be treated as accommodations and referred to ODS?

**Accommodations for a documented disability – From ODS**

- What accommodations are frequently requested?
- Are there accommodations that would be unreasonable in this class?
- Would it be better depending on the frequency or type of request to make a broader change so everyone can benefit?
Classroom Access and Inclusion Strategies

**Universal Design Classroom Access Strategies**
- Proactive efforts to remove barriers
- Flexible instructional Strategies
- Varied forms of engagement, participation, and assessment

- Allow technology, post all handouts/ readings online prior to class in accessible format, captions videos, designate a class note taker, allow alternatives to speaking in large groups, allow variations on format or type of course assignments.

**Faculty Modifications and Allowances**
- Individualized allowances at the professor’s discretion for a range of non-disability related reasons, including minor or acute health issues.

- Students and professor negotiate directly during the course for extensions, absences, alterations in assignments, etc. that differ from stated course expectations.

**Disability related Accommodations**
- Individualized allowances/modifications based on documented disabilities/health conditions. Needs assessed and accommodations determined by ODS

- Professor implements accommodations in compliance with Section 504 and ADA as determined by Disability Services. Accommodations are designed to assure equal access. Academic standards are not altered.