TENUTA PROMOTING ACCESSIBILITY AND USABILITY

ALPE Website Accessibility Audit

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Background to the Evaluation

A conformance evaluation of web accessibility requires a combination of semi-automated evaluation tools, and manual evaluation by an accessibility expert against an established set of guidelines.

The DRC and MLA accessibility audits identified the 10 most critical Web Accessibility Initiatives, Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0 (WAI WCAG) checkpoints that cause users with disabilities 'real' problems when interacting with the web. These checkpoints were manually assessed against the several pages with different instances of the functionality in the website. Automated testing resources were unable to access these pages.

The evaluation results in this report are based on the evaluations conducted during May 2007. Additional information on the specific guidelines employed is available in the Resources section of this report.
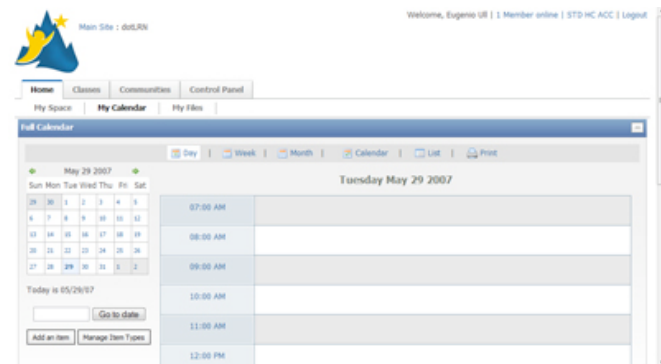
Overview

The website has been well coded, offers a number of accessibility features and no major accessibility issues were identified.

Some areas where changes could be made to improve the accessibility of the website are:

• Ensure all forms elements have labels
• Make tables more accessible
• Improve colour contrast
• Make sure the accessibility features provided are easily identifiable and are explained

My Calendar

URL: http://alpe.adenu.ia.uned.es/dotlrn/?page_num=1
Path: Home > My Calendar

The following table describes the specific accessibility issues that were identified, and gives recommendations for solutions.

Description	Recommendation	Checkpoint
Although high contrast and accessible style sheets have been provided, the user is unlikely to understand the terms 'STD', 'HC' and 'ACC'.	Provide more information for the user about what the terms mean such as the phrase 'view a high contrast version of this website' or similar. An accessibility page could be created to give users more information about how they can alter settings to improve their experience.	14.1 Priority 1
The contrast between the white colour of the text used for the portlet title 'Full Calendar' and the blue background colour is not sufficient (the luminosity contrast ratio varies between 3.25 and 4.44, a minimum of 5.0 is suggested).	It is recommended that you use a darker blue for the background. The shade of blue used at the bottom of the portal header strip would have sufficient colour contrast.	2.2 Priority 2
The alternative text provided for the image of the printer is not appropriate. The alternative text reads 'View' which is perhaps suitable for a view of a calendar, but does not convey the same information that an image of a printer does.	Alternative text such as 'Printer Friendly' would be more informative.	1.1 Priority 1

The form field on the calendar form where users enter dates does not have a label associated with it. Labels are used to give further information about a form element, and are especially useful to those using screen readers.	It is recommended that you explicitly associate all form controls with a label.	12.4 Priority 2
Tables are used to display data (rather than just for layout purposes) for both the small monthly calendar, and for the day schedule. These tables have not been marked up (coded) as data tables. Tables containing data can be difficult to understand if a person is navigating the website using non-visual means. In particular screen readers users can easily become confused when searching inside a table because of the difficultly of associating a particular cell with the corresponding column or row. The tables used to display the calendar and the day schedule are not fully accessible. All tables that are used to display data should contain information about that data.	Where possible column and row header elements (TH) should be used to identify the nature of the content of table columns and rows. It is recommended that you also use the CAPTION element and the summary attribute when creating tables. Tables can also have titles. On the small calendar, three separate tables are used to hold the current day, the days of the week, and the dates. This could be combined into one table, where the current day is the table caption, the days of the week the table headers, and the dates the table content. For the day schedule, the current day could be the table caption. A new row of headers could be added to identify the content of the columns such as 'Time' and 'Event'. The times could also be coded as table headers.	5 Priorities 1-3
The skip navigation link does not seem to be working correctly. When accessed the page reloads without jumping user to main content.	This needs to be addressed	General Comment

Add

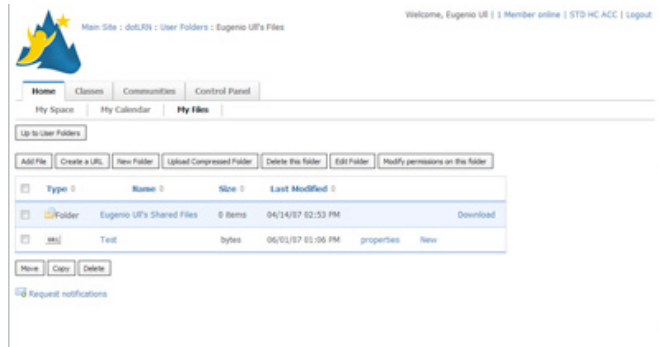URL: http://alpe.adenu.ia.uned.es/dotlrn/?page_num=1
Path: Home > My Calendar > Add

The following table describes the specific accessibility issues that were identified, and gives recommendations for solutions.

Description	Recommendation	Checkpoint
On the 'Add Event' form, several form items such as the date and start time do not have any labels. This is likely to make the form difficult to use for screen reader users. The information that tells the user which order to enter the date in (y-m-d) is after the input boxes and is not a label.	Provide labels for each element. Reorder the date input boxes to a more standard format. Provide explanations prior to the input fields.	12.4 Priority 2
The pop–up calendar included as part of the main form does not work if JavaScript is turned off, so the user has no way of checking days of the week without navigating to another page.	Remove the year view calendar on the left hand side, and replace this with a monthly view calendar that can be viewed whilst filling in the form.	6.3 Priority 1
The terms 'STD', 'HC' and 'ACC' are unclear.	Recommendation as for My Calendar page.	14.1 Priority 1

My Files

URL: http://alpe.adenu.ia.uned.es/dotlrn/file-storage/?folder_id=32431
Path: Home > My Files > User's Files

The following table describes the specific accessibility issues that were identified, and gives recommendations for solutions.

Description	Recommendation	Checkpoint
Not all columns in the table that is used to display the file information have headers.	Provide headers for all tables.	5 Priorities 1-3
The terms 'STD', 'HC' and 'ACC' are unclear.	Recommendation as for My Calendar page.	14.1 Priority 1
The contrast between the grey text used for the name of files within folders and the light blue background colour is not sufficient (the luminosity contrast ratio is 2.49, a minimum of 5.0 is suggested).	It is recommended that you use a darker grey for the text.	2.2 Priority 2

Class Space

URL: http://alpe.adenu.ia.uned.es/dotlrn/classes/alpe/alpe.uned/procesadortextos/one-community?page_num=0
Path: Home > Procesador Textos > Class Space

The following table describes the specific accessibility issues that were identified, and gives recommendations for solutions.

Description	Recommendation	Checkpoint
Not all columns in the table that is used to display the assessments have headers.	Provide headers for all tables.	5 Priorities 1-3
The contrast between the white colour of the text used for the portlet title 'Full Calendar' and the green background colour is not sufficient.	It is recommended that you use a darker green for the background.	2.2 Priority 2
The terms 'STD', 'HC' and 'ACC' are unclear.	Recommendation as for My Calendar page.	14.1 Priority 1

Resources

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0
<http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG10/>

DISABILITY RIGHTS COMMISSION, (2004), The Web: Access and Inclusion for Disabled People, The Stationery Office, London.

Petrie, H. King, N. Hamilton, F. (2005). Accessibility of museum, library and archive websites: the MLA audit. Museums, Libraries and Archives Council. London.