This slide presentation will define accessibility as it applies to online course content. A brief history of accessibility will be followed with statistics relating to people with disabilities. The presentation concludes with information regarding the types of disabilities in section 508. Accessibility for students with a disability needs to be as easy as it is for students without a disability. At this time section 508 is not mandated for colleges and universities. It may be mandated in the near future. Colleges and Universities need to be ready for these changes. Section 508 applies specifically to the internet.

The number of students with disabilities is greater than many instructors are aware. Color blindness is not often thought of as a real disability. But reading color coded material is very difficult for color blind students. American sign language is not known by many faculty members. Other ways must be found to communicate with deaf or hard of hearing students. These disabilities cause limited mobility, limited strength, and limited stamina. People with disabilities make up a large group and should not be overlooked by colleges and universities as potential students.