

Mobile Learning Unit: Inclusive Learning Design Principles

Our goal is simple: To empower every learner to thrive, regardless of background, identity, or ability.

At the Mobile Learning Unit (MLU), we believe that truly effective learning is inclusive, accessible, and respectful of the diverse needs of all learners. Our Team embeds inclusive design principles throughout the course development process to ensure our educational offerings are welcoming, equitable, and empowering for every learner.

We know **you can't be what you can't see**; representation matters. When learners see themselves reflected in content, examples, and learning environments, they are more likely to feel valued, engage fully, and achieve their potential. This belief underpins every aspect of our approach to inclusive design.

Our Principles of Inclusive Design

We commit to the following core principles in our course design:

Accessibility for All (Aligned with WCAG 2.1)

We design all learning content to meet the **Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 Level AA** standards. This includes:

- Providing alternative text for images and meaningful links
- Using clear, consistent navigation and layout
- Ensuring sufficient colour contrast
- Designing keyboard-navigable and screen reader-friendly experiences
- Avoiding reliance on colour alone to convey meaning

Neurodiversity-Affirming Design

We acknowledge and support the wide range of cognitive experiences and ways of processing information. Our practices include:

- Offering content in multiple formats (text, video, visual summaries)
- Structuring information clearly with predictable layouts
- Minimising cognitive overload through chunking, pacing, and signposting
- Providing flexible pathways for learning and assessment

Inclusive of the Rainbow Community (LGBTQIA+)

We foster a safe, affirming learning environment by:

- Using inclusive language and avoiding assumptions about gender or sexuality

- Offering examples and case studies that reflect diverse identities and relationships
- Ensuring learners can express themselves authentically and respectfully

Cultural and Racial Inclusion

Representation is key to belonging. We aim to ensure learners of all backgrounds see themselves reflected in our content and pedagogy. We do this by:

- Incorporating diverse voices and perspectives across examples, case studies, and media
- Avoiding stereotypes and tokenism
- Valuing Indigenous knowledge systems and ways of learning where appropriate
- Creating space for cultural expression and authenticity
- Reviewing course materials to challenge bias and foster racial equity

Support for English as an Additional Language (EAL) Learners

We design for clarity and comprehension for learners who speak English as an additional language by:

- Using plain language and avoiding jargon
- Providing glossaries and visual aids
- Supporting captioning and translation tools where feasible

Design for All Abilities

Our learning experiences are created to be navigable and meaningful for people with varying physical, sensory, and cognitive abilities, including:

- Use of accessible multimedia and captioned content
- Clear instructions and flexible engagement options
- Opportunities for learners to participate in ways that align with their strengths

Our Ongoing Commitment

Inclusion is not a checkbox; it's a commitment to continuous learning and reflection. We regularly review our content, gather feedback from learners, and consult with experts to improve our practices.