Assisting Students with Disabilities

TA Training Workshop
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Students with disabilities

• May choose to disclose a disability to UMBC or not

• Have more invisible than visible disabilities
  • Learning disabilities, Attention Deficit Disorder, psychological disorder, etc.

• Entitled to reasonable accommodations both inside and outside the classroom

Student Support Services (SSS)  www.umbc.edu/sss
Reasonable Accommodations

- Prescribed for each individual student by SSS after review of documentation
  - Two students with the same disability may need/receive different accommodations
- Accommodations letter to professor will list all approved accommodations
  - Extended testing time, priority seating, note takers, etc.
  - No other accommodations should ever be provided
TA’s role is to assist professor in

- Ensuring the student has equal access
- Ensuring the student receives all prescribed accommodations
- Ensuring neither discrimination nor unfair advantage
- Respecting and protecting the student’s right to privacy
  - Keep all information about a student’s disabilities confidential

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Providing accommodations

- Often requires extra time and effort on the part of the TA
- Ask the student to notify and remind you of their needs well in advance (e.g., a week)
- Ask the professor or a professional staff member in SSS for help if you do not know what to do or how to do it
For more information

- Visit the sss.umbc.edu/resources/information for faculty
- Call SSS at 410-455-2459
Thanks and Q&A

- Thank you for assisting UMBC in providing equal access for our students with disabilities.
- Do you have questions?