



TOWARD EFFECTIVE INCLUSION AT UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES: APPLICATIONS OF UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING

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Abstract

Almost everywhere in the world, higher education witnesses increasingly diverse student population which has become a challenge. Such diversity is looked up as a real problem that faces instructors at higher education. Indeed, numerous studies have shown that this issue has to be addressed properly by higher education institutions (universities and colleges) and therefore, work very hard if not to eliminate it, at least to decrease it. This means that all students regardless of their differences from the mainstream have to be included, taking their rights like the others.

At Sultan Qaboos University (SQU), the issue of diversity among students comes to classes in different fashions each semester. With students from all the regions of the Sultanate beside a number of them from around the world, classes at SQU see different types of students who possess almost unlike characteristics. As it is clear, the issue of diversity at SQU is not different from the other universities in the world. The main purpose of the paper was to deal with my classroom at Sultan Qaboos University, college of education in Oman as a case study using UDL. This paper presented the potentiality of applying what is called *universal design for learning (UDL)* in university courses. The revolutionary idea of UD worked to design spaces, products, and services that met the needs of the widest range of diverse individuals who used these services.

Key Words: Udl, diversity, inclusion