E-learning: a tool for teachers with a disability
Accessibility has usually focused on... Students & Tutors

Usability & Accessibility Research on e-learning

IT Support & Development
Administrative Staff
Course Creators
But this paper focuses on...

Usability & Accessibility Research on e-learning

Students

Teachers & Tutors

IT Support & Development

Administrative Staff

Course Creators
### Educational level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Level</th>
<th>With disability</th>
<th>Without disability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No studies</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary Degree</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary Degree (1st grade)</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary Degree (2nd grade)</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Job Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job Status</th>
<th>With disability</th>
<th>Without disability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not-working</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workers unemployed</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workers employed</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Spanish Institute for Statistics (INE): Persons with a disability and their relationship with job market. Based on the Active Population Quest (April-June 2002).*
Why .LRN

Accessible for students

Flexible

Open

Standard Based Architecture

Open

Flexible
Let’s get closer onto the teachers problems & needs...

→ Spanish elementary and secondary teachers.
→ No official data exists about disabilities in this group.
→ Little previous research done before on disability & teachers
→ Facts deduced from
  – press news,
  – trade unions reports,
  – legislation basis
  – Statistical reports
Problem 1. Access to the job

→ competitive examination
→ special quota for people with disability
→ a committee must certify this person is capable for the job
  – not clear rules
  – subjective
  – privacy is mandatory
→ the teacher should be capable of perform all the duties associated to the job without a full-time assistant
  – This includes not only pedagogical tasks but also the control, surveillance, assistance and attention of the children.
Problem 2. Mental disorders

→ Stress, depression, isolation feel and anxiety are very common (12.2% of the sick leaves)

→ Reasons
  – transformation of social relationships,
  – moral values changes,
  – diversity of the pupils and
  – the increasing number of problem students.
  – transfer of responsibilities from the family to the teachers,
  – the lack of social recognition of these professionals and
  – the assumption of others responsibilities for lack of specialized personnel.
Problem 3. Violence at the school

→ 65% of teachers have problems of violence with students.
→ Spanish punishment for the violent students is sending them off the school for some days.
→ This systems does not satisfy teachers, who must care too soon for a problematic student.
Problem 4. Educational material not adapted

→ As teachers with disabilities are not 'the usual' in the educational primary level, almost everything is not accessible: books, posters, audiovisual material, etc.

→ Legislation forbids to deny the purchase of special materials

→ But budgetary reasons can be –and are- argued to delay these materials.
Problem 5. Infrastructures not adapted

→ Legislation forced the schools to be adapted to students with physical disabilities
→ Some teachers also benefit: stairs and ramps, toilets, doors, emergency exits...
→ Some teachers with other disabilities don’t benefit, as students with that disability are usually taught in special schools (for the blindness, for the deafness, etc.).
Problem 6. Mobility to the school

→ Many teachers do not live close to their schools, and often they have to drive or be driven to the school.
→ Although there are grants for these issues, teachers must dedicate part of their salary in special transport.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problems</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access to the job</td>
<td>Help teachers to guarantee the control, surveillance, assistance and attention of the students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental disorders</td>
<td>Generate confidence and well-being</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Improve the communication among the others teachers and the administration staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Personalization the effort for each student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violence at the school</td>
<td>No face-to-face teaching, anonymous tracking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational material not adapted</td>
<td>Validation of contributions (WCAG checkpoints)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructures not adapted</td>
<td>The administration space of the e-Learning platform has to be accessible, not only student space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offer different types of activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobility to the school</td>
<td>The platform should be device independent, no need for special devices</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thanks and see you