



TO: SUNY Cortland Faculty

FROM: Dr. Chris Widdall  
Chair, Educational Policy Committee

DATE: April 15, 2019

RE: EPC's Recommendation for Revised Disability Statement for SUNY Cortland

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At the request of the Disability Resources Advisory Committee and the Disability Resources Office of SUNY Cortland a new disability statement is being proposed for all syllabi at SUNY Cortland.

After several iterations of revising that was done in collaboration with a representative from the Disability Resource Advisory Committee, the EPC committee, and feedback from the campus vetting process, the following statement is being presented to Faculty Senate for consideration.

Rationale: The Disability Resources Advisory Committee (DRAC) and the Disability Resources Office (DRO) of SUNY Cortland wanted to ensure that an updated disability statement had certain components that clearly identified an inclusive learning environment for all students. To ensure this the DRAC felt it essential to:

- Keep the statement clear and simple for students.
- Ensure that the statement follows the Office of Civil Rights decisions noting that the Disability Resources must determine legibility and accommodations.
- Communicate to students who choose to not affiliate with the Disability Resources Office.
- Empower faculty who wish to have conversations with students and adapt course design on their own.
- Put the focus on addressing barriers in a course that might hinder several students rather than placing a focus on a student's disability.

College Handbook:

<p><b>Current Statement under 220.02 and is part of the Syllabus Requirements with in this section of the College Handbook.</b></p>	<p><b>Revised Statement for placement under section 220.02 in the College Handbook as part of the Syllabus Requirement for all campus syllabi.</b></p>
<p>SUNY Cortland is committed to upholding and maintaining all aspects of the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Suggested wording might be the following: "If you are a student with a disability and wish to request accommodations, please contact Disability Resources Office located in Van Hoesen Hall, Room B-1, or call 607-753-2066 for an appointment. Any information regarding your disability will remain confidential. Because many accommodations require early planning, requests for accommodations will be reviewed in a timely manner to determine their appropriateness to this setting."</p>	<p>As part of SUNY Cortland's commitment to a diverse, equitable, and inclusive environment, we strive to provide students <del>with disabilities</del> with equal access to all courses. If you believe you will require accommodations in this course, please place a request with the <a href="#">Disability Resources Office</a> at <a href="mailto:disability.resources@cortland.edu">disability.resources@cortland.edu</a> or call 607-753-2967. Please note that accommodations are generally not provided retroactively so timely contact with the Disability Resources Office is important. All students should consider meeting with their course instructor, <del>to discuss learning strategies that may be helpful</del> <b>who may be helpful in other ways.</b></p>