Providing an inclusive and accessible learning environment is an important faculty responsibility. The NC State Disability Resource Offices (DRO) determines eligibility for accommodations for students with disabilities and serves as a resource to faculty in understanding our institutional obligation in providing equal access, providing approved accommodations and creating accessible learning environments.

Federal law mandates that the university provides reasonable academic adjustments to qualified students with disabilities. (See NC State’s Regulation on providing academic accommodations for students with disabilities at http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-20-01.) Reasonable accommodations provide equal opportunity to learn and demonstrate mastery, and do not include lowering essential requirements.

Our success depends heavily on your active participation and cooperation, and the DRO is eager to assist you in fulfilling that responsibility and in building a successful community of learning for all students. If the design of a course cannot be adjusted to eliminate barriers, a student may need to utilize effective reasonable accommodations to access course content and/or demonstrate learning. The DRO provides each faculty member, initiated via their online module by the student, with an Accommodation Letter which lists approved accommodations. Faculty must provide these approved accommodations unless, after consultation with the DRO, the accommodations change essential requirements. Any student requesting accommodations without an Accommodation Letter should be directed to the DRO; you should not attempt to create or deny reasonable accommodations without input from the DRO. It is also strongly recommended that you make an announcement at the beginning of the semester inviting students with disabilities to discuss academic accommodations with you.

We also must provide students with disabilities the same access to University notices as provided to other students concerning all academic matters. Therefore, print notices you mail or post on classroom or departmental doors must be provided in an appropriate alternate format (i.e. email) for students with disabilities. When using Internet resources, you should ensure that those materials are accessible to students with disabilities. If unable to locate or use an accessible resource, you must offer an alternative resource that provides equally effective access. For guidance on checking and making Web Pages and other electronic resources accessible, please consult with DELTA or OIT at accessibility@ncsu.edu.

The DRO is located in Suite 304 of Holmes Hall. Resources and procedures for faculty can be found at https://dro.dasa.ncsu.edu/ or you may contact the office directly at 919-515-7653 (voice) or disability@ncsu.edu.

Thank you for your attention to the important goal of providing a learning environment conducive to the success of each NC State student.