

# Voluntary Product Evaluation Template (VPAT)

Date: **20<sup>th</sup> June 2008**

Name of Product: **Black Studies Center**

Product website: <http://bsc.chadwyck.com>

Contact for more Information: [Black Studies Center Contact Us page](#)

**NOTE: All sections not applicable for this web product have been greyed out.**

Refer to the [ITIC Best Practices](#) for filling out the following form.

Summary Table		
Criteria	Supporting Features	Remarks and explanations
Section 1194.21 <a href="#">Software Applications and Operating Systems</a>	<b>Supports</b>	Fully compliant. See below.
Section 1194.22 <a href="#">Web-based internet information and applications</a>	<b>Supports with Exceptions</b>	Application is compliant but the data has some exceptions. See below for full details.
Section 1194.23 Telecommunications Products	<b>Not applicable</b>	<i>Black Studies Center</i> is not considered a telecommunications product according to the definition in Section 1194.23.
Section 1194.24 Video and Multi-media Products	<b>Not applicable</b>	<i>Black Studies Center</i> is not considered a multimedia product according to the definition in Section 1194.24.
Section 1194.25 Self-Contained, Closed Products	<b>Not applicable</b>	<i>Black Studies Center</i> is not a self-contained product according to the definition in Section 1194.25.
Section 1194.26 Desktop and Portable Computers	<b>Not applicable</b>	<i>Black Studies Center</i> is not a desktop product according to the definition in Section 1194.26.
Section 1194.31 <a href="#">Functional Performance Criteria</a>	<b>Supports with Exceptions</b>	Supports with some exceptions. See below for full details.
Section 1194.41 <a href="#">Information, documentation, and support.</a>	<b>Supports</b>	Fully compliant. See below.

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Section 1194.21 Software Applications and Operating Systems		
* Refer to ( <a href="http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/guide/1194.21.htm">http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/guide/1194.21.htm</a> ) for details on the guidelines listed below.		
Criteria	Supporting Features	Remarks and explanations

<p>(a) When software is designed to run on a system that has a keyboard, product functions shall be executable from a keyboard where the function itself or the result of performing a function can be discerned textually.</p>	<p><b>Supports</b></p>	<p>The product is designed for keyboard access. Access keys are available and documented in the Accessibility page.</p>
<p>(b) Applications shall not disrupt or disable activated features of other products that are identified as accessibility features, where those features are developed and documented according to industry standards. Applications also shall not disrupt or disable activated features of any operating system that are identified as accessibility features where the application programming interface for those accessibility features has been documented by the manufacturer of the operating system and is available to the product developer.</p>	<p><b>Supports</b></p>	<p><i>Black Studies Center</i> does not disrupt/disable standard browser accessibility features (access keys have been chosen carefully so that they do not conflict).</p>
<p>(c) A well-defined on-screen indication of the current focus shall be provided that moves among interactive interface elements as the input focus changes. The focus shall be programmatically exposed so that Assistive Technology can track focus and focus changes.</p>	<p><b>Supports</b></p>	<p>The current input focus can be discerned by assistive technology (using standard html code for forms, etc).</p>
<p>(d) Sufficient information about a user interface element including the identity, operation and state of the element shall be available to Assistive Technology. When an image represents a program element, the information conveyed by the image must also be available in text.</p>	<p><b>Supports</b></p>	<p>Text labels identify all form fields. Label/ids and other accessible code necessary for screen readers are associated with all form elements. All images used to represent functionality or actions have associated text labels (or alt/title text if a text label is not appropriate).</p>
<p>(e) When bitmap images are used to identify controls, status indicators, or other programmatic elements, the meaning assigned to those images shall be consistent throughout an application's performance.</p>	<p><b>Supports</b></p>	<p>Standard and consistent images are used throughout the site.</p>
<p>(f) Textual information shall be provided through operating system functions for displaying text. The minimum information that shall be made available is text content, text input caret location, and text attributes.</p>	<p><b>Supports</b></p>	<p><i>Black Studies Center</i> uses standard HTML input elements as supported by all browsers. Any text written to the screen can be interpreted by assistive technologies.</p>
<p>(g) Applications shall not override user</p>	<p><b>Supports</b></p>	<p>The CSS style sheet can be</p>

selected contrast and color selections and other individual display attributes.		overridden in the product using the browser settings. This is documented in the Accessibility page.
(h) When animation is displayed, the information shall be displayable in at least one non-animated presentation mode at the option of the user.	<b>Not applicable</b>	There is no animated content in <i>Black Studies Center</i> .
(i) Color coding shall not be used as the only means of conveying information, indicating an action, prompting a response, or distinguishing a visual element.	<b>Supports</b>	Colour is used to enhance usability by drawing attention to certain areas of the screen, but colour is never the only means of conveying important information.
(j) When a product permits a user to adjust color and contrast settings, a variety of color selections capable of producing a range of contrast levels shall be provided.	<b>Not applicable</b>	<i>Black Studies Center</i> does not provide functionality to alter colour/contrast, although this can be done via the browser if the user chooses to override the CSS style sheet.
(k) Software shall not use flashing or blinking text, objects, or other elements having a flash or blink frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz.	<b>Supports</b>	<i>Black Studies Center</i> does not use flashing or blinking elements in the user interface.
(l) When electronic forms are used, the form shall allow people using Assistive Technology to access the information, field elements, and functionality required for completion and submission of the form, including all directions and cues.	<b>Supports</b>	All forms have been coded with the necessary mark-up (use of labels/ids, etc.) to make them accessible to assistive technologies.

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<b>Section 1194.22 Web-based Internet information and applications</b>		
<b>* Refer to ( <a href="http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/guide/1194.22.htm">http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/guide/1194.22.htm</a>) for details on the guidelines listed below.</b>		
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) A text equivalent for every non-text element shall be provided (e.g., via "alt", "longdesc", or in element content).	<b>Supports with Exceptions</b>	The application is fully compliant – all <img>elements have appropriate alt attributes. Text within graphics is restricted to product title and logos only. All images that are purely decorative are either coded as background images or have null alt text (so they do not interrupt the page when using a screen reader).

		<p>We cannot guarantee that all images in the data have been given alt text.</p> <p>Flash video clips do have captions and transcripts.</p> <p>Mpeg Video clips do not have captions or transcripts.</p> <p>A small amount of journal full text articles are in PDF image format only (unreadable to screen readers).</p> <p>Dissertation and newspaper full text articles are in scanned image format only (you can view a GIF on screen, or download a PDF of the image). These are unreadable to screen readers. Dissertations give the additional option of being able to order a print copy.</p>
(b) Equivalent alternatives for any multimedia presentation shall be synchronized with the presentation.	<b>Does not Support</b>	<p>There is a DHTML/AJAX timeline in the product for which there is a text-only alternative.</p> <p>Mpeg Video clips (located in the <i>Schomburg Studies on the Black Experience</i> area) do not have synchronized captions or transcripts.</p>
(c) Web pages shall be designed so that all information conveyed with color is also available without color, for example from context or markup.	<b>Supports</b>	Colour is used to enhance usability by drawing attention to certain areas of the screen, but colour is never the only means of delivering important information.
(d) Documents shall be organized so they are readable without requiring an associated style sheet.	<b>Supports</b>	All content is still available with CSS turned off.
(e) Redundant text links shall be provided for each active region of a server-side image map.	<b>Not applicable</b>	The product does not use image maps.
(f) Client-side image maps shall be provided instead of server-side image maps except where the regions cannot be defined with an available geometric shape.	<b>Not applicable</b>	The product does not use image maps.

<p>(g) Row and column headers shall be identified for data tables.</p>	<p><b>Supports with Exceptions</b></p>	<p>Tables used strictly for layout do not have row or column headers.</p> <p>As new content gets added, data tables may appear in the data. We cannot guarantee that these will have been coded with row and column headers.</p>
<p>(h) Markup shall be used to associate data cells and header cells for data tables that have two or more logical levels of row or column headers.</p>	<p><b>Supports with Exceptions</b></p>	<p>Data tables are not used in the application.</p> <p>As new content gets added, data tables may appear in the data. We cannot guarantee that these will have been correctly coded with associations between the cell and appropriate headers (e.g. using the id/scope attributes).</p>
<p>(i) Frames shall be titled with text that facilitates frame identification and navigation</p>	<p><b>Not applicable</b></p>	<p>The product does not use frames.</p>
<p>(j) Pages shall be designed to avoid causing the screen to flicker with a frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz.</p>	<p><b>Supports</b></p>	<p>Graphics, videos, and other elements of the content do not flicker.</p>
<p>(k) A text-only page, with equivalent information or functionality, shall be provided to make a web site comply with the provisions of this part, when compliance cannot be accomplished in any other way. The content of the text-only page shall be updated whenever the primary page changes.</p>	<p><b>Supports with Exceptions</b></p>	<p>The product has been designed to be directly accessible, so text-only pages are not generally necessary. The exception is the DHTML/AJAX timeline, for which there is a text-only alternative.</p> <p>Flash video clips do have captions and transcripts.</p> <p>However, Mpeg video clips do not have captions or transcripts.</p> <p>A small amount of journal full text articles are in PDF image format only (unreadable to screen readers).</p> <p>Dissertation and newspaper full text articles are in scanned image format only (you can view a GIF on screen, or download a PDF of the image). These are unreadable to screen readers. Dissertations give the additional option of being able to order a print copy.</p>

<p>(l) When pages utilize scripting languages to display content, or to create interface elements, the information provided by the script shall be identified with functional text that can be read by Assistive Technology.</p>	<p><b>Supports with Exceptions</b></p>	<p>All scripts used in the application are accessible to assistive technologies and the keyboard.</p> <p>The exception is the DHTML/AJAX timeline, for which there is a text-only alternative.</p>
<p>(m) When a web page requires that an applet, plug-in or other application be present on the client system to interpret page content, the page must provide a link to a plug-in or applet that complies with 1194.21(a) through (l).</p>	<p><b>Supports with Exceptions</b></p>	<p>Some parts of the content require a media player or Adobe Acrobat reader. Links are provided to the relevant plug-in via the Accessibility page (link appears on all pages of site) and the Software Requirements page.</p> <p>Flash video clips do have captions and transcripts.</p> <p>Mpeg video clips do not have synchronised captions or full transcripts.</p> <p>A small amount of journal full text articles are in PDF image format only (unreadable to screen readers).</p> <p>PDFs for dissertation and newspaper full text articles are in scanned image format only. These are unreadable to screen readers. The alternative is a screen GIF view, also unreadable to screen readers.</p>
<p>(n) When electronic forms are designed to be completed on-line, the form shall allow people using Assistive Technology to access the information, field elements, and functionality required for completion and submission of the form, including all directions and cues.</p>	<p><b>Supports</b></p>	<p>All forms have been coded with the necessary mark-up (use of labels/ids, etc.) to make them accessible to assistive technologies.</p>
<p>(o) A method shall be provided that permits users to skip repetitive navigation links.</p>	<p><b>Supports</b></p>	<p>The first element on every page is a 'skip over navigation to the main content' link which allows users to skip all repetitive navigation.</p> <p>The skip link remains invisible for mouse users, but is accessible to screen readers and keyboard users (becomes visible when user tabs to link).</p>

(p) When a timed response is required, the user shall be alerted and given sufficient time to indicate more time is required.	<b>Not applicable</b>	The product does not require timed responses.
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Note to 1194.22: The Board interprets paragraphs (a) through (k) of this section as consistent with the following priority 1 Checkpoints of the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0 (WCAG 1.0) (May 5 1999) published by the Web Accessibility Initiative of the World Wide Web Consortium: Paragraph (a) - 1.1, (b) - 1.4, (c) - 2.1, (d) - 6.1, (e) - 1.2, (f) - 9.1, (g) - 5.1, (h) - 5.2, (i) - 12.1, (j) - 7.1, (k) - 11.4.

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<b>Section 1194.31 Functional Performance Criteria</b>		
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user vision shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are blind or visually impaired shall be provided.	<b>Supports with Exceptions</b>	<i>Black Studies Center</i> is coded to work with screen readers and other assistive technologies. The product is tested using JAWS.  Exceptions as described in 1194.21 (a) (b) (g) (h) (k) (l) (m).
(b) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require visual acuity greater than 20/70 shall be provided in audio and enlarged print output working together or independently, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are visually impaired shall be provided.	<b>Supports with Exceptions</b>	<i>Black Studies Center</i> is coded to work with screen readers.  Text can be enlarged in the product. Print view pages give an option to print large text.  Exceptions as described in 1194.21 (a) (b) (g) (h) (k) (l) (m).
(c) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user hearing shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are deaf or hard of hearing shall be provided	<b>Does not Support</b>	Flash video clips do have captions and transcripts.  Mpeg video clips do not have synchronized captions or transcripts. However, Mpeg video clips form a small part of the data held in <i>Black Studies Center</i> .
(d) Where audio information is important for the use of a product, at least one mode of operation and information retrieval shall be provided in an enhanced auditory fashion, or	<b>Supports</b>	<i>Black Studies Center</i> supports the use of assistive technology such as screen readers.

support for assistive hearing devices shall be provided.		
(e) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user speech shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people with disabilities shall be provided.	<b>Supports</b>	User speech is not required to use the product.
(f) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require fine motor control or simultaneous actions and that is operable with limited reach and strength shall be provided.	<b>Supports</b>	All screen elements are designed to be accessible for users with poor motor control (i.e. clickable areas are suitably sized).

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<b>Section 1194.41 Information, documentation, and support</b>		
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) Product support documentation provided to end-users shall be made available in alternate formats upon request, at no additional charge.	<b>Supports</b>	Context-sensitive help is available from each page of the product (this can be viewed online or printed). Product details are available from the corporate site or on request.  Users are encouraged via the Accessibility page to use the contact form if they require any further help with using the product.
(b) End-users shall have access to a description of the accessibility and compatibility features of products in alternate formats or alternate methods upon request, at no additional charge.	<b>Supports</b>	The product links to an Accessibility page from the footer navigation (appears on all pages of site). This features useful information about site wide navigation, site maps, access keys, using the tab key, managing pop-ups, how to change the visual display, and details on features with implications for accessibility. It also includes a standards compliance policy statement.
(c) Support services for products shall accommodate the communication needs of end-users with disabilities.	<b>Supports</b>	The Accessibility page provides support information for users with disabilities. There is also a 'Contact Us' link on each page where users can direct queries or



		<p>suggestions to our support staff.</p> <p>Details for accessing technical support can be found in the product. Users are provided with email, phone and fax contact details.</p>
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