

Student Accessibility Services

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Interpreters in the Classroom

Prior Arrangements

• SAS will coordinate interpreter arrangements for each of the student's classes at the beginning of the semester.

On The First Day

- Introduce yourself to both the student and the interpreter(s).
- Discuss typical class format (lecture, video, online content, small group, independent work, mixture).
- Discuss any upcoming activities to find out learning style preferences and alter arrangements to accommodate the learner's needs. Contact SAS with any questions.
- Share any relevant course information/materials with the interpreter(s) to provide necessary background information about the subject.
- Recognize the need for a note taker/copy of notes. It is difficult to watch the interpreter and take notes at the same time. If notetaking arrangements are necessary, SAS will coordinate.

Helpful Tips

- Speak directly to the student (not the interpreter).
- Speak at a reasonable pace.
- Allow additional time for reading of any material posted up on the board/screen before speaking.
- Only show captioned videos for equal access. If you need a video captioned, please contact SAS well in advance of when the video will be shown.
- Spell out any technical words.
- Repeat and paraphrase questions that are asked by other students.
- Plan short breaks. Interpreting is rigorous. If the class is over an hour, team-interpreting may be necessary.
- The student should inform the instructor/department of any department-sponsored event they would like to attend and SAS can arrange for interpreters.
- The student can also arrange for an interpreter themselves when they need to meet 1:1 with an instructor during office hours.
- If the course involves posting of course information to Moodle, notify SAS to add the interpreters to your course roster. This way they can have access to materials and better facilitate the communication of course content.

*If you have any questions/concerns, please contact us!