

Working with Classroom Interpreters

When a Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing (D/HH) student is taking your course, s/he will require American Sign Language Interpreters, as a reasonable accommodation, in order to be successful. Here are some helpful information and tips:

- D/HH student should sit in the front row of the classroom with a clear view of the Interpreter and you, the Instructor.
- Interpreters should sit in front of the classroom near you (Instructor) and be facing the students.
- You will likely have 2 Interpreters in your classroom who will alternate interpreting to the student, approximately every 20 minutes. Team interpreting allows each interpreter to take physical breaks although they are still working by supporting their team in processing and accurate interpretation.
- Please speak clearly and at a moderate pace. This will help the Interpreter to convey your information accurately. Please allow the Interpreter to ask questions for clarification, if necessary.
- If you allow student questions during lecture, please restate the questions to make sure the Interpreter is able to hear and interpret the questions and answers clearly.
- If you ask the D/HH student a question during class, please allow extra time for the response due to the interactive process between the Interpreter and student.
- If you have students doing group work, the Interpreter will assist with communication between the D/HH student and the group members.
- If you are showing a video, please make sure it is Closed-Captioned. (Please contact DSPS if you have any questions on captioning media.)
 - Whether or not your media is captioned, you may need to leave on a light during the presentation so the Interpreter can interpret the media or just to clarify questions that arise for the D/HH student. Please check in with the Deaf student.
- Please give advance notice to the D/HH student of any upcoming additions or changes to class-required activities such as meetings, events, fieldtrips, class cancellations, etc., so the Interpreting agency can be informed and the student can be provided this essential accommodation.
- Please provide copies of handouts/textbooks to Interpreters, if available.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact DSP&S at (916) 691-7275.

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