

Students with Hearing Impairments in the Classroom

- Speak naturally and clearly.
- Try to avoid standing in front of windows or light sources.
- Write important announcements and additional directions on the board.
- Try to limit speaking while facing or writing on the board and remember that it is difficult (often impossible) for the student to lip read and take notes simultaneously.
- Try to reduce background noise as much as possible.
- Videos – make the student aware of when a video will be shown. Try to show videos with closed captioning. Because students with hearing impairments often have difficulty understanding videos, they may need to borrow them to watch on their own or in the library.
- Slides – provide the student with a list of slides that will be shown and try to minimize lecture when lighting is low.
- Repeat the questions and summarize the comments of other students in classroom discussion.
- The student may need a notetaker in your course. Please assist the student, if needed, in discretely identifying another student to take notes. The notetaker is eligible to receive a small stipend from the Learning Assistance Center.
- The student may ask that you use an Assistive Listening Device (ALD), which will help minimize classroom noise and help the student better attend to the instructor. If a student chooses to use an ALD, then you may be required to wear a small microphone/transmitter and the student will use a receiver.
- Ask students if they need any other assistance and use the Learning Assistance Center (5929) as a resource when needed.