



Working with an Auslan interpreter

Reasonable adjustment

Auslan (Australian Sign Language) is the language of the Australian Deaf Community. An Auslan interpreter is a NAATI (The National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters) accredited interpreter employed by the University to convey meaning from spoken English into Auslan and vice versa for a student during lectures, tutorials, practicals, workshops etc. Use of an Auslan interpreter is recommended by the student's Disability Assessment Advisor at the completion of the Accessibility Service registration process.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Students will confirm their enrolment and class registration details with the Accessibility Service to allow the correct allocation of Auslan interpreters.
- The academics teaching these units will be contacted by the Accessibility Service to inform them on how to work with students who use Auslan and with Auslan interpreters. Arrangements will be made to make teaching material accessible to the student.
- The Accessibility Service will coordinate with the academics to provide Auslan interpreters preparation material prior to the classes.
- Students who have completed the Accessibility Service registration process well before the start of the University session, will receive an email in the week before the start of each session. This email will list the names of the Auslan interpreters allocated to their classes.
- The Accessibility Service endeavours to have Auslan interpreters allocated to all classes within the first two weeks of session.
- Two interpreters are required for sessions over one hour. They work together in tandem to prevent mental and physical fatigue and to comply with Occupational Health and Safety standards.
- Auslan interpreters will meet the students at each location. Preferred seating arrangements will be made, usually at the front of the room.
- The Accessibility Service will contact students in case of a change in Auslan interpreting arrangements.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Students should complete the Accessibility Service registration process in a timely manner in order to give adequate time for the Accessibility Service to coordinate supports.
- Students should enrol and register in classes in a timely manner, in order to give adequate time for the Accessibility Service to implement supports. Late enrolments and changes of class time may result in delays in support.
- Students should attend the classes they are registered in.
- If students have a concern or enquiry, they can contact the Accessibility Service by sending a SMS to the Accessibility Service mobile phone, 0437 973 899, or by emailing cwb.interpreting@mq.edu.au
- Students who will be absent from a class or have a change in schedule must notify the Accessibility Service via SMS or email as soon as possible, preferably 24 hours in advance, to reallocate services. The Service will then notify the Auslan interpreters and other support providers.
- In some cases, Auslan interpreters may be recommended for exams and tests. During these assessments, the Auslan interpreters will only interpret supervisor instructions. Unlike classes, academic content cannot be interpreted during tests and exams.

FIND OUT MORE

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