AccessAbility

DASS Disability Accommodations & Success Strategies

Your DASS Link login: https://smu-accommodate.symplicity.com/sso/students/login

Located in the ALEC

► TOPICS ◄

EXTRA MILE AWARDS
DREAM READER APP
MAY & JUNE ACCOMMODATION LETTERS
TIPS FOR ONLINE LEARNING

We Recommend These Apps!

Having reached top 10 in Education in 86 countries, Voice Dream Reader is the world's most accessible reading tool. With advanced text-to-speech and a highly configurable screen layout, it can be tailored to suit every reading style from completely auditory to completely visual, plus synchronized combination of both.

Voice Dream Reader and Voice Dream Scanner are immensely popular apps. For a limited time, the two are available for a total cost of $9.95:
https://apple.co/2W9teQ1

...AND Extra Mile Award Goes to:

Congratulations

Dr. Maryann Cairns in the Anthropology Department of Dedman College School of Humanities and Sciences, is known for pre-planning, clear communication, lively class discussion, and being available even outside of office hours. She makes sure that her students with learning differences are always engaged, nurtured, and prepared.

Professor Sara Romersberger in the Theatre Department of Meadows School of Arts inspires her students and recently worked closely with a student to find her voice and develop a movement piece exploring what it's like to be a student with a learning difference.

Dr. Frederick Chang, the Chair of Computer Science in the Lyle School of Engineering guides his faculty to attend to students' unique needs. He doesn't hesitate to consult with DASS to better understand and help not only his own students with learning differences, but also help other faculty members to do the same.

Semester Request for Accommodation Letters

If you have enrolled in May Term, now is the time to submit a Semester request for letters. Please keep in mind, not all accommodations are reasonable for short, intense courses like MayTerm courses. Speak to your professor before the semester begins to find out how your accommodation might work in the particular class. Summer (June and July) Letters should be requested after spring finals, and will begin to go out May 15th. DASS Link login: https://smu-accommodate.symplicity.com/sso/students/login
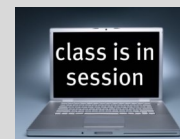

Tips for Online Learning

As all of you navigate your way through your online learning, here are some helpful tips to help with a successful transition.

⇒ *Feeling disorganized?*
Be up to date on your professor's expectations for the class. Stay on top of all communication from your instructors through email, canvas or lecture.
Read your instructors Syllabus for updates to due dates and test dates
Establish a work space that is free from distractions.

⇒ *Feeling like you have additional work and it's creating processing strain and anxiety?*
Contact an ALEC learning specialist to help organize time and create structure.
Adopt paper planning and tracking systems that create 'visible' parameters for an invisible platform.
Reach out to your classmates and see if they're struggling with the same things you are. Maybe you can create a google hangout study group or discussion thread that allows you to get the help you need and help other students with what they're struggling with.

⇒ *Having Zoom fatigue?*
Pin your screen frame so it does not keep switching between you and other students.
Stay focused with taking notes. If you have a note assistance accommodation and are not using it you may find it helpful to begin to use it.
Use "chat" to participate in class discussions to help stay involved in the class lecture.

Stay in contact with your professors and reach out if you are struggling with your learning in class. Most issues can be improved when you let your professor be aware of your challenges. *Remember to remind your current professors of any accommodations needed for final exams!

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