

Permission to Audio Record FAQ

Overview

Some students approved for accommodations through Disability Resources and Services (DRS) may be authorized to audio record lectures as an accommodation. Audio recording can provide equal access to course content for students whose disabilities impact note-taking, information processing, memory, attention, or other learning-related functions.

The accommodation is intended to supplement a student's note-taking and study process by allowing them to review course material at a later time. Students approved for this accommodation may use a variety of recording methods, including digital audio recorders, smartphones, laptops, or approved note-taking platforms such as Jamworks or Genio.

Privacy and Classroom Discussions

DRS recognizes that some courses involve sensitive topics, personal disclosures, clinical discussions, or classroom participation that may raise concerns regarding recording.

The purpose of the accommodation is to provide access to instructional content that students are expected to learn and may be assessed on. Recording is not intended to capture conversations that are unrelated to course content or assessment.

In situations where discussion activities are not connected to examinations, graded assignments, or required learning outcomes, faculty may work with the student and DRS to determine whether recording should be paused during those portions of class.

Faculty with concerns about specific classroom activities are encouraged to contact DRS to discuss appropriate solutions.

Confidentiality and Student Responsibilities

Students approved for audio recording accommodations must sign a Permission to Audio Record agreement with DRS.

Under this agreement, students acknowledge that:

- Recordings are for personal educational use only
- Recordings may not be shared, posted, distributed, uploaded, or reproduced
- Recordings may not be used for purposes unrelated to the course
- Recordings must be destroyed or deleted when they are no longer needed for academic purposes

Failure to comply with these requirements may result in referral through applicable University conduct processes.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I prohibit a student from recording my lecture?

No. When audio recording is approved as a disability accommodation, students must be permitted to record instructional content covered by the accommodation.

Can I ask a student to stop recording during certain activities?

Possibly. If portions of class involve discussions that are not related to instructional content, assessment, or required learning outcomes, faculty should consult with DRS to determine an appropriate approach.

Can I notify the class that recording may occur?

Yes. Faculty may make a general announcement that approved accommodations may include an audio recording of instructional content. The student receiving the accommodation should never be identified.

What if I have concerns about sensitive course content?

DRS is available to consult with faculty regarding specific situations, including courses that involve sensitive discussions, clinical experiences, patient information, confidential materials, or other unique circumstances.

Questions?

[Disability Resources and Services \(DRS\)](#) is available to assist faculty in implementing accommodations and addressing questions regarding audio recording in the classroom. Faculty with concerns are encouraged to contact DRS for guidance and support.