

ACCESSIBILITY CHALLENGES

Overall, students are finding it difficult to manage the complexity of their courses this semester. The majority of our students are taking a combination of online synchronous, online asynchronous, hybrid, and in-person classes. As a result, students are having to spend more time navigating multiple platforms to access their course material. Below is a brief list of some of the additional challenges that may be faced by students with a disability.

- Students who are deaf or hard of hearing
 - Captioning video and audio content (helpful for other students as well)
 - Provided clear masks to faculty teaching hard of hearing students
 - Difficulty participating in group work and discussions for in-person classes
- Students who experience ADHD
 - May experience more difficulty staying on track
 - Difficulty focusing and concentrating with online learning
 - Difficulty finding reduced distraction spaces to study and take online exams
- Students who experience Learning Disabilities
 - May have more difficulty learning from a virtual format
 - Synchronous communication may be difficult
- Students who experience Autism Spectrum Disorder
 - Difficulty communicating with instructors via email or Zoom
 - Lack of normal class structure
- Students who experience at-risk medical conditions
 - Accommodations needed in the classroom and housing to reduce risk of getting COVID-19
- Students who experience psychiatric conditions
 - Increased anxiety due to the pandemic and complexity of courses
 - May have increased difficulty focusing while studying and taking exams
- Providing accommodations for exams
 - Finding compatible text-to-speech software for online exams proctored by Honorlock
 - May have difficulty finding a reduced distraction testing space for online exams.

For questions or concerns, please contact UE Disability Services at 812-488-2663. You may also directly contact a Disability Services staff member via email:

- Debbie Brenton, Coordinator of Disability Services, db132@evansville.edu
- Carissa Young, Disability Services Counselor, cy41@evansville.edu

Our office recognizes that this is a challenging time for the UE community and appreciates the effort that you continue to put forth in working with students.

Thank you!
Debbie & Carissa