

Transcription

Video: Deaf person using sign language.

Series: Assistive Devices and Information and Telecommunications Technologies.

Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED)

Narrator

Álex González. Social Education student at the UNED.

Narrator

Alex and his interpreter communicate through sign language.

Sign language interpreter

Hi, are you Alex?

Álex

Yes, and you are...?

Interpreter

I'm Isabel, the interpreter who will be recording the video with you.

Álex

Oh, nice to meet you.

Interpreter

Same here.

Description

Álex and his interpreter communicate through sign language.

Álex

Hello, my name is Álex. This is my sign name, and I study Social Education at UNED in Madrid. I'm a deaf person and a sign-language user; it's my native language.

When it comes to studying at UNED, I face many difficulties. For example, attending classes is challenging because access to sign-language interpreters is limited. Without that support, it's completely impossible for us to access the classes and their content.

Other difficulties that I see include, when doing the work assigned to us by the various professors, whether it's watching videos or listening to UNED radio, obviously there's no adaptation facilitating access to these contents.

When it comes to taking exams, they usually involve written texts, but it's very difficult for us to convey our ideas in writing. So, perhaps one of the adaptations would be to use multiple choice exams instead.

Solutions for the future? Well, it occurs to me that sign language interpreters could be incorporated into the classrooms to facilitate access to the content, to the tutorials. Also, the classes could be recorded so that those students who can't benefit from a face-to-face interpreter in the classroom, for whatever reason, could follow the classes via videoconference or an online platform.

When it comes to doing the work assigned to us by the professors, when using the materials that are in a certain format, they could provide us with not just the audio, but the text as well.

And the exams could be adapted for deaf people. That is, if the exam involves any added or previous work, that material could be adapted.

I hope that these adaptations can be carried out because I believe that, if they were, more deaf people would take part in higher education and, of course, it would be much more accessible for all of us. Also, with regard to call management, something very common when contacting professors and others, in the case of deaf people it would be essential to facilitate access to that service through the SVisual video-interpretation platform, which is accessible by deaf people and makes it easier for us to complete all kinds of administrative procedures, etc. Or even contact with professors through SVisual.

Description

Alex uses videoconferencing on a computer to communicate in sign language with an interpreter. He tells her that he wants to talk to a professor from the UNED, and the interpreter puts him through.

Álex

I'd like to speak to a UNED professor, at 91 398 0000.

Description

The interpreter speaks on the phone with the professor and, at the same time, signs for Álex via videoconference.

Professor

Hello.

Interpreter

Hello, good morning. Could I speak to Alejandro, please? Is that you?

Professor

Yes, that's me.

Interpreter

Perfect. I'm calling from the SVisual service. It's a video display service in Spanish sign language for deaf people. Right now, there is a deaf person, called Álex, who wants to contact you. I'm going to interpret the call, OK? I'll pass him to you.

Professor

Thank you very much.

Álex

Hello, good morning. My name is Álex and I wanted to contact you with a question in relation to something in your class. How should I send you the work corresponding to this course, to this subject?

Professor

Well, Álex, you have to submit the work through the virtual course, and do so before the exam.

Álex

With regard to 112 emergency calls, there are adaptations for deaf people through the intermediation service, using a device called DTS, a text phone, in which you, by contacting another such device at the intermediation service, can report your emergency by a text message, using a specific phone number. That way, the response is immediate. It's a service that operates 24 hours a day.