

Transcript

Video: Deaf person using sign language.

Series: Support products and information and telecommunication technologies.

National University of Distance Education (UNED).

Narrator

Álex González. Social Education student at UNED

Narrator

Alex and his interpreter communicate through sign language

Sign language interpreter

Hello, are you Alex?

Álex

Yes, who are you?

Interpreter

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

Álex

Ah, nice to meet you

Interpreter

Same here

Álex

Hello, my name is Alex. This is my sign, and I'm studying the degree in Social Education at UNED in Madrid.

I am a deaf person, a user of sign language, which is my mother tongue.

I find many difficulties when studying at the UNED.

For example, when attending classes, the difficulty of finding sign language interpreters, because if we do not have that resource it makes it impossible for us to access the classes and the content itself.

I also have difficulties when we have to develop the work assigned to us by the various teachers, either viewing videos or listening to the radio at UNED, because there are obviously no adaptations to provide us access to that content.

The exams are usually written examinations with mainly text, but it is very difficult for us to develop ideas in written language, and perhaps one of the best adaptations would be to convert these exams in test type examinations.

Any solutions for the future? Well, I think to incorporate sign language interpreters in the classroom to facilitate access to the contents, tuitions, that there is the possibility that classes are also recorded so that if the student, can't have a face to face interpreter in the classroom, the classes can be followed through videoconferencing or through an online platform.

When developing the work teachers assign us, by using the materials in a certain format, they can provide text, apart from the existing audio.

And that exams are also adapted for deaf people, so if the review implies some added or previous work, that material is also adapted.

I hope these adaptations can be carried out because I think that if they do, the participation of deaf people in higher education would increase and, of course, it would be much more accessible to us all.

Also in regard to handling calls, a frequent need when having to contact teachers and others, for people who are deaf it would be essential to facilitate access to this service through a sVisual video-interpretation platform, because it is an accessible system for deaf people that gives us the power to perform all kinds of administrative procedures, etc. Or even contact teachers through sVisual.

Narrator

Alex uses videoconferencing on a computer to communicate through a sign language interpreter. He says he wants to talk to a teacher at UNED and the interpreter connects him.

Álex

I wanted to talk to a professor at UNED via phone number 913 980 000.

Narrator

The interpreter speaks on phone to the teacher, and at the same time uses sign language with Alex signing by videoconference.

Teacher

Hello?

Interpreter

Hello, good morning. Please could I speak to Alejandro? Is that you?

Teacher

Yes, hello.

Interpreter

Yes, look, perfect, I am calling from the sVisual service. It is a videodisplay service in Spanish sign language for deaf people. Right now there is a deaf person called Alex, who wants to contact you. I'm going to interpret the call, okay? I will pass you on.

Teacher

Thank you very much.

Álex

Hello good day. You see, my name is Alex and I wanted to contact you for the following reason in relation to the subject you teach. I am a student of your subject and wanted to ask how I should send you the essay for this course, this subject.

Teacher

Look, Alex, you must submit your work through the virtual course, and do it before the exam of the subject takes place.

Álex

With regards to emergency calls 112, there are adaptations for deaf people, done through the mediation service by contacting a device called DTS. DTS is a text telephone you use with another text phone they have in the mediation service, in a text message you can indicate whatever emergency you have, by contacting a specific telephone number. That way the attention is immediate. It is a service that operates 24 hours a day.