

# Examples: Talking about accommodations with Professors

## Prepping for the Semester with your Professor

- Make sure the professor has been notified of your accommodations
- Plan for future tests with your professor at the beginning of the semester
- Ask your professor what will make you a successful student this semester

1. "Professor \_\_\_\_\_, thank you for meeting with me. Before we start, I wanted to make sure you received the email from SDS about my accommodations. "
2. "I am willing to disclose that I am/have (insert disability) and so I wanted to talk more about test taking. Since I am approved for extra test time, I wanted to ask how many tests are there in your class? Do you anticipate anything we need to work through to make sure my testing accommodation goes smoothly? "
3. "What resources do you think I should use to be successful in your class?"

## For Professors that may not Fully Understand your Needs

- Be patient and explain your needs to the professor
- Explain your accommodations and reasons for how they support your needs
- Emphasize that accommodations aren't for easier test-taking but to create an environment where one can be in the right state of mind to perform

If your Professor says something like: " You have been doing well in class. I don't think it is necessary for you to have extra time on the test. Also, the tests aren't too difficult."

1. "I might seem okay, but my disability is not often visible. Having extra time on the exams is really important to me and my success in this class."
2. "Unfortunately, I have tried to take tests without the extra time in the past, and due to my disability, I haven't been able to finish them in the time allotted. It doesn't have to do with how well I know the material but rather my needs. With the extra time, I can do better without having to worry about the effect my disability might have."

## Asking for Assignment Modifications

- If a proposed assignment is too difficult because of your disability (film-making, drawing, digital media, speech, etc.), ask the professor if it's possible to modify the assignment.
- Mention that learning of the topic is still preserved and how the modification will better support your understanding in the class and produce outstanding results.

1. "I noticed we have an assignment later in the semester where drawing will be a major part of the project. However, due to my disability this assignment will be very difficult for me. Is there any way we can work around this?"
2. "Would it be possible to offer alternatives to the assignment such as creating a film, or working with digital media?"
3. "I really appreciate your effort in making this assignment more accessible."