

# **OBSERVERS IN THE CLASSROOM**

## **FOR SMU STUDENTS AND STAFF**

Is there someone observing in one of your classes taught by Dr. Campbell? What does this mean and how does it affect you? This sheet provides an overview of what is involved and your rights as a student.

### **BACKGROUND: ROLE OF THE OBSERVER**

In Canada, and the world, it is uncommon to have a Deaf professor and Sign Language – Spoken Language interpreters working in a post-secondary setting. It is also worth noting that the interpreting is a practice profession wherein observing working professionals is vital for development in the field. Observers in this class will either be ASL-English interpreters (student or working professional) or members of the Deaf community.

### **EXPECTATIONS OF OBSERVERS IN YOUR CLASS**

1. Your educational experience is paramount. Therefore, observers have been asked not to have side conversations or engage in other distracting behaviours during the class.
2. Observers have been asked not to ask questions during the lecture and wait until after the class is finished.
3. Information pertaining to the observation (course content, names of those present, etc.) is confidential and will be treated as such. Observers have signed an agreement to not disclose this information to anyone that was not present in the class during the observation.

### **YOUR RIGHT AS A STUDENT**

**IMPORTANT:** You have the right at any time, for any reason, to ask an observer to leave. Inform Dr. Campbell and she will handle the situation.

For more detailed information about SMU Interpreting Services, please check out the SMU [Deaf Academics & Interpreters](#) webpages.

*If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the SMU Faculty of Science staff interpreter, Ashley Campbell at:*

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or

902-496-8761