Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) - Specific Supports

Common challenges for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder

- Adapting to new routines or unpredictable changes to timetables and venues.
- Organisation and orientation to university locations and systems.
- Interpreting and understanding unclear directions or ambiguous content.
- Getting to know new people and building up relationships.
- Group work situations such as labs or projects.
- Hypersensitivity to noisy environments, for example, lecture halls and communal spaces.
- Organising material, planning, and managing time and deadlines.

Commonly used teaching & learning techniques

- Handouts in advance.
- Prioritised reading lists.
- Recording lectures.

Commonly used exam accommodations

- Smaller group venue.
- Extra time.
- Use of a computer.

Click here for an Autism Awareness video.
1:1 Disability Service Supports

**Occupational Therapy**
- Help navigating the college facilities on and offline.
- Help you to develop a balanced routine and weekly plan.
  - Help you stay on track of coursework by developing plans and setting goals.
- Offer guidance about Social and Leisure engagement.
- Assist with preparation for placement and other work experiences.

**Specialist Academic Support**
Meeting with the Academic Support specialist can work well alongside your OT and AT meetings, or by itself. Academic support meetings are great when approaching exams, or to help you stay organised with your academic work throughout the year. Some things you may address in a 1:1 meeting:
- Becoming familiar with Blackboard and online systems.
- Developing a study plan.
- Specific study skills.

**Assistive technology**
Assistive Technology can be both high and low tech and can help you perform tasks more easily. Students with ASD commonly use the following:
- Speech to text software.
- Grammarly.
- Note taking.
- Touch typing.
Where can I find more information about the Disability Service?

How to access the ASKDS Disability Service Blackboard module

1. Log in to Blackboard Learn.

2. Click on ‘Module Search’.

3. Type ‘Disability Service Supports’ in the ‘Module Search’ box and click ‘Go’.

4. If more than one module appears, click on the drop-down arrow beside ‘ASKDS’ under the ‘MODULE ID’ field.

5. Click on ‘Enrol’.

6. Click on ‘Submit’.

Find the Disability Service on social media

Twitter: @TCDAbility

Facebook: Trinity Disability Service

Instagram: @TCDAbility

Youtube: DS Service TCD

Be sure to meet with a Disability Service (DS) staff member to complete your LENS report.

Need more help? Just askds@tcd.ie