

RECORDING LECTURES AS AN ACCOMMODATION

Instructors **may not prevent** a student (who has an approved accommodation), from recording their class.

Recording lectures is one of the accommodations specifically mentioned in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Recorded lectures may not be used in any way against the faculty member, other lecturers, or students whose classroom comments are recorded as part of the class activity.

Instructor's right to privacy in the classroom

The instructor's right to privacy does not override the student's right to accommodation.

It is the responsibility of the Access Office to see that the instructor's concern for privacy is respected and addressed while still assuring the availability of accommodation for the student.

In many instances, this has been accomplished through the adoption of a contract between the instructor and student that details the specific limited use of the recordings and arranges for their disposal when the function has been fulfilled.

Classes involving self-disclosure

Occasionally, instructors object to the use of a recorder in classes that involve a great deal of self-disclosure from students as part of the class, fearing that the recording will inhibit students from freely sharing.

The use of a recorder is to replace the student's notetaking ability. If these open discussions are not appropriate subject matter for any student to be taking notes, it would be appropriate to ask the student with disability to turn off the recorder during these periods.