Challenges faced

“I can’t write everything down in lectures, which stresses me out”

“I struggle to manage all aspects of college life and focus on my work”

“I get anxious if I can’t follow clear processes”

Solutions offered by Sonocent Audio Notetaker

Record everything and revisit the material at your own pace to create comprehensive notes

Create a library of study resources, organized by topic and searchable by keyword

Follow a structured note-taking model to condense notes and embed understanding

91% of students say their notes are organized and easy to find with Audio Notetaker*

*Based on a May 2015 survey of 1,624 respondents with Sonocent Audio Notetaker licenses
Nicholas

Age: 21 | Sex: Male
Course: MS Computer Science and Mathematics
Condition: Asperger syndrome

Profile
Nicholas is studying for a Master’s in Computer Science and Mathematics. The course is delivered through lectures, tutorials and project-based group work. He is assessed on examinations and lab-based coursework.

Challenges faced
Nicholas has Asperger syndrome, which makes it difficult to process verbal information and to manage the social aspects of college life, alongside his workload.

Nicholas’s condition affects his ability to take accurate notes in lectures. He finds it impossible to get everything written down by hand, and is uncomfortable asking his lecturer to repeat the information. The self-directed nature of learning on his course and the requirement to participate in group discussions present additional challenges.

How Sonocent Audio Notetaker could help
The National Autistic Society recommends that colleges and universities provide students with Asperger syndrome with access to electronic equipment to take notes, and that they make it possible to record their lectures.

The ease with which Nicholas can record, edit and review lecture material with Audio Notetaker helps him keep up with his studies, even when feeling overwhelmed by other aspects of university life. He can import slides, diagrams, photos and visual cues alongside his audio, which plays into his visual learning style. And he can mark up instructions concerning deadlines and academic requirements in color for quick retrieval. The resulting Audio Notetaker projects provide a basis for written coursework.

As Nicholas works better when following clearly-defined, repeatable processes, he might also want to consider using Audio Notetaker to create notes using the Cornell Note-taking System. Following this method, Nicholas will revisit his Audio Notetaker project within 24 hours of the lecture, typing or recording his own summary of the lecture material either beside or below each section of the recording. He would then type keywords and questions in the Reference Pane, before listening back to the lecture recording to ensure that his summary contains all the relevant information in brief. Later, when returning to the project for revision, he could hide the Text Pane and use the keywords and questions in the Reference Pane to test his understanding and recall.

Nicholas could also record group discussions, marking up key points with a Color Key created for the purpose. Afterwards, he could revisit these points, removing much of the pressure to contribute and assimilate information at the time. As he is self-conscious about using assistive technology, he could do this subtly using the Sonocent Recorder companion app.

Finally, with a simple search by the keywords he typed into the Reference Pane using the Cornell Note-taking System, Nicholas could bring up all projects relating to a topic, which would make it easy to stay organized.

Sonocent Audio Notetaker has been used by over 100,000 students with disabilities to take notes independently. Find out more and access training resources at:

www.sonocent.com/disability-resources