Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART)

Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART), also referred to as real-time captioning, is a way to transcribe the spoken word into readable English text using real-time software.

At NVCC, CART services are provided remotely. The professor wears a small lapel wireless microphone to provide audio for the remote, off campus CART captioner. The text is streamed back over an Internet connection to the student’s laptop or tablet.

CART Captioning is a verbatim or word-for-word transcription of what is said. What a captioner hears is typed into the software and appears exactly as it was said. CART captioners have been trained as Court Reporters through a Legal College or a Court Reporting Program. CART captioners have had additional training to provide services in real-time and are often able to capture speech at 180 – 220 words per minute.

During a class, the instructor will be asked to wear a very small microphone. The microphone is wireless so as not to impede movement in any way. The student will bring all necessary equipment (microphone, laptop/tablet) to each class session.

Students using CART receive an electronic file at the end of each class that provides them with a “transcript” of the class or lecture.

THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The Americans with Disabilities Act specifically recognizes CART as an assistive technology which affords "effective communication access." Communication access more aptly describes a CART provider's role and distinguishes CART from real-time reporting in a traditional litigation setting.