STUDENT SUPPORT and DISABILITY RESOURCES & SERVICES
DEPARTMENT WITHIN STUDENT AFFAIRS
DISABILITY RESOURCES & SERVICES

Assistive Technology Software

Kurzweil: for students who have learning differences and visual impairments.
This is assistive technology that does text to speech, and is a learning tool with the idea of Universal Design with concepts for learning that support reading, writing, test-taking and study skills. This software provides accessible curricula to all students. It also enables a visually impaired user to gain access to both web-based, digital or scanned print materials. Kurzweil is available for use on any computer.

Inspiration: for students who are visual thinkers and learners.
This program uses diagrams and outlines to organize new information (concept mapping). Inspiration can take an outline and automatically put it into a visual diagram or it can take a visual diagram and put it into outline form. It strengthens critical thinking, comprehension, and writing skills. This is free on our ADA computer in the computer lab or has a 30-day free trial on your own computer.

Jaws: for students who are blind or visually impaired.
This is a screen reading software program which reads aloud what is displayed on the computer screen text-to-speech. It is very sophisticated and primarily uses keyboard shortcuts. Jaws can also output to a refreshable Braille display.

ZoomText: for students who are visually impaired.
This is a computer screen magnification and reading software program. It enlarges, enhances, and reads aloud everything on the computer screen. It is very user friendly.

Dragon Naturally Speaking: for students who struggle with writing or typing.
This is a voice recognition software that allows you to speak in to a microphone or headset attached to your computer. It records your spoken words and then will transcribe your recording into text.

Jaws, ZoomText and Dragon Naturally Speaking is available for use on both the Pecos and Williams Campus Computer Lab.

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