

Recommended Computer Specifications for Fall 2016

University of Kentucky, College of Design

Laptop Requirement: The College of Design requires all students to have a laptop to be able to do their work within their studio classes with the following Minimum Requirements:

Minimum System Requirements

64-bit Intel® or AMD® multi-core processor Core i5 or better, 2.2 GHz or greater speed
64-bit Microsoft® Windows® 7 (SP1), Windows 10 Professional or OS X v10.9 (Mavericks) or later (**NO Windows 8 or Home**)
8GB of Ram or better. 16GB recommended
512GB Hard Drive or larger
1,280 x 800 display minimum
Wireless Network Card
3 Button Mouse

Some Examples (Pricing not guaranteed but was accurate the day this was printed):

Apple Macbook Pro 15" 16GB, 2.5GHz Quad Core i7, 512GB SSD.....\$2499

HP Omen 15-5220nr 15.6" 16 GB RAM, 2.6 GHz Core i7, 512 GB SSD....\$1669

Toshiba Tecra W50-A1510 15.6" 16 GB RAM, 2.8 GHz Core i7, 500 GB HDD...\$1949

Lenovo Thinkpad X1 Yoga 14" 16GB RAM, 2.6 GHz Core i7, 512GB SSD...\$1889

Macintosh vs. Windows: Many of our students and faculty are currently using Macintosh equipment due to virtually no malware issues. All but two of the programs we use (Rhino3D and Autodesk Revit) are on both operating systems. Either operating system will work for our program, we just have fewer issues and downtime from our Macintoshes.

Current Macintosh computers will run both the Macintosh & Windows Operating Systems and can be used in all of our classes. They can be configured to run Bootcamp, but can be supplemented with the programs Parallels or VMware Fusion. Help with setting this up can be provided by our IT staff at the beginning of every semester. YouTube videos exist to help as well.

Other Equipment: A minimum 8GB Flash key or flash drive is required. Some of our students use iPods, other MP3 players or shirt pocket sized hard drives to carry their work around on. A separate backup hard drive is highly recommended to have and leave at your home. A printer is recommended but not required as there are Black & White and Color printers available in most of the campus computing labs for a small printing fee. The Pence Hall Computing Lab is equipped with wide format plotters for studio printing projects. A 22" external monitor is also recommended but not required for home or studio use.

Do not **ever** have your backup drive and your computer in your backpack or studio at the same time. They do sometimes grow legs and walk away when not watched over properly. Hard Drives do crash and years worth of work can be completely lost without a backup. Students also have access to space on Microsoft and Google Cloud Drives.

Software we use: Please do not purchase software before checking with our IT staff or your Professors to get the best price. Many of these packages are available for free or very inexpensively through the University. Microsoft Office, AutoDesk AutoCAD, AutoDesk Revit, Bentley Microstation, Rhinoceros 3D, Autodesk Maya, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Acrobat, Lamina Design, Adobe Indesign, and Google Sketchup. Other programs may be used in specific studios or by specific faculty members.

Useful Links:

<http://uky.edu/design>

<http://www.academicsuperstore.com/>

<http://google.com/sketchup>

<http://students.autodesk.com>

<http://download.uky.edu>

<http://download.com>

<http://rhino3d.com>

<http://adobe.com>

<http://uky.edu/ebuy>

<http://cdw.com>

<http://apple.com>

<http://dell.com>

Feel free to contact our Technology Coordinator at michael.culp@uky.edu or **859-257-9413**