

COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS

Interior Design Program 2023

The Interior Design Program is proud to make use of the latest technology to prepare students more fully for the professional design world. In order to facilitate this process, all students will need a laptop computer. The software we use require more RAM and specific graphics cards that out-of-the-box laptops may not be equipped with, especially for upper level courses. The complex, advanced software that we use changes annually and require more computing power, RAM, and graphics capabilities.

Because of this, students need to be prepared to invest in a quality laptop. Since computers are used in the classroom environment, a laptop is the required platform. There are two approaches (Option 1 and Option 2) to meeting this need. The specifications listed below are a separate specification, therefore allowing for more customization on the consumer's end.

OPTION 1

Variations to these specifications are possible, but we do not recommend a laptop that has Windows 10 Home Addition or Windows 8.1. Each of these operating systems will work with the software, but may not perform as well as the recommended system and may not be supported through the full year duration.

PERFORMANCE LEVEL CONFIGURATION	
Operating System	Microsoft® Windows® 10 64-bit: Enterprise or Pro
CPU Type	Multi-Core Intel Xeon or i-Series processor or AMD equivalent with SSE2 technology. We recommend a Dual Core Processor as a minimum. Multiple cores (i.e. 16 cores) will result in better computing power. Budget permitting, we recommend the purchase of the highest number of cores available. The higher the CPU speed, gigahertz (GHz), the better. The latest i-Series is an i9.
Memory	32 GB RAM (recommended: with expansion slots); 64GB RAM will provide even better performance
Video Display	1680 x 1050 with true color Ultra-High Definition Monitor
Video Adapter	Basic Graphics: Display adapter capable of 24-bit color

PERFORMANCE LEVEL CONFIGURATION

Advanced Graphics:

Below are the minimum system requirements for a laptop computer purchased for freshman and sophomore years.

BASIC LEVEL CONFIGURATION

Required Operating System Windows 11 Home or Professional (defined by software)

Recommended Optional Equipment:

Should Include Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. (Microsoft Works is NOT an acceptable substitute)		
AutoCAD	Free	First Year (Fall)
Autodesk Revit	Free	Second Year (Spring)
Adobe Creative Cloud ADOBE CREATIVE CAMPUS https://www.adobe.msstate.edu/	\$150 Per Academic Year	Second Year (Spring)
Rhinoceros (Rhino)	Free 90 day trial	Fourth Year (Fall or Spring)
SketchUp	\$55 – 1-year student license	Second Year (Fall)
Lumion Pro Student	Free	Fourth Year (Fall)
Enscape3D	\$149 – 1-year student license	Second Year (Fall)
Genius Scan (and smart phone to operate)	Free	First Year

*Given that technology/software change rapidly, there is a strong possibility that software requirements beyond listed above may be required.

Use of Macs:

Some of the software used in Interior Design is incompatible with the Apple Macintosh Operating System and many versions of the software are not available. Should a student choose to use a Mac they will need to ensure it has appropriate microprocessor, will need to purchase a dual booting software (such as BootCamp or Parallels), the Windows 10 Pro Operating System, and need additional versions of any software they wish to operate in both Mac and Windows 10 operating systems. We do not have recommendations for purchasing an Apple Mac.

*We recommend that students avoid purchasing a computer during the first semester in the program. A basic computer for word processing should be all they would need for that first semester. They are permitted to use a computer that is being carried over from high school for the first semester, and it can be either a PC or a Mac. Given the possibility that students may change their major during the first semester, it is not to make a full investment in an expensive computer that would be unnecessary for other majors.

The second semester in the program will require the use of Autodesk AutoCAD which is a processor-heavy software. It will require a more advanced system than the specifications provided above.

**Given that software needs change regularly, we cannot determine whether computers will need to be replaced or upgraded during the course of a student's academic career. Each computer system functions differently and is maintained differently by each individual. Many factors effect needing to upgrade a computer, therefore, it should be expected that multiple computers or upgrades to hardware may need to be purchased when necessary.