Computer Requirements for Interior Design

Updated: JUNE 2015

After acceptance into the interior design program, whether through selective admissions or transfer evaluation, students are required to have their own personal laptop computer with software installed by the first day of class. **PLEASE NOTE**: Students may purchase a PC or a Mac laptop, however be aware that most of the programs we use, teach and specify are PC based. Computer courses teach only the PC version of the software. Any problems arising from formatting or running the programs on windows for Macintosh and subsequent interfaces such as ‘Boot Camp’ or ‘Parallels’ are solely the responsibility of the student.

PC Laptop Specifications (minimum requirements in parenthesis):

- **Processor**: 2.2 GHz Intel Core i7 Quad Core Processor (or faster, purchase the fastest you can afford)
- **RAM**: 16 GB RAM
- **Hard Drive**: 500 GB minimum (solid state memory preferred)
- **Display**: 15” Full HD Display
- **Video Adaptor**: 2GB Dedicated video card NVIDIA Quadro or ATI Radeon HD brands
- **OS**: Windows 8 64bit Edition (64bit necessary to utilize 4gb+ of RAM)
- **Service**: 3 years Basic Service Plan strongly recommended

**Suggested Adapters and Drives**
- Optical Drive CD/DVD (if your laptop does not have one built in)

MAC Laptop Specifications (minimum requirements in parenthesis):

- **Processor**: 2.2GHz quad-core Intel Core i7 (or faster, purchase the fastest you can afford)
- **RAM**: 16 GB RAM
- **Hard Drive**: 500 GB (solid state memory preferred)
- **Display**: 15” Full HD Display
- **Video Adaptor**: Intel Iris Pro Graphics – NCIDIA GeFroce GT 750M
- **OS**: OS X Yosemite
- **Service**: 3 years Basic Service Plan strongly recommended

**Suggested Adapters and Drives**
- Apple Thunderbolt to Gigabit Ethernet Adapter / Mini Display Port to VGA Adapter / Mini Display Port to DVI Adapter
- Apple USB SuperDrive (CD/DVD)

**Software**
- Virtual Machine Software, such as Parallels or Boot Camp, for running Windows based software

**Required Software for PC and MAC**

- MS Office (available at no charge through http://tigerware.lsu.edu/)
- Autodesk AutoCAD 2016 (Windows) Student versions available at no charge from [www.autodesk.com](http://www.autodesk.com) OR Autodesk AutoCAD 2016 (MAC) Student versions available at no charge from [www.autodesk.com](http://www.autodesk.com)
  (You must use your .lsu.edu email when setting up an account on autodesk.com)
- Adobe Creative Cloud Monthly Subscription (This contains Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign,...)
- Rhinoceros Version 5 (Student Version) for PC

**Other Requirements**

- External Mouse 3-button scrolling wheel
- 32GB USB Thumb drive
- 1TB External USB Hard Drive
- Inkjet Printer 11 x 17