

DEPARTMENT OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

LAPTOP REQUIREMENTS

Students enrolling in landscape architecture are required to own a laptop computer with the required software listed below installed. Students are required to possess basic computer literacy before beginning the landscape architecture curriculum.

Please note:

Mac operating systems are not supported by several key software packages commonly used in design. It is possible to run Windows-based software on a Mac through programs like BootCamp or Parallels, but this is only recommended for advanced users.

LAPTOP

Processor: Intel Core i7 or similar quad core processor, 3.1 GHz or greater

Memory: Minimum 8 GB, 16+ GB recommended

Storage: Minimum 500 GB but recommend 1 TB (smaller SSD drives are also an option, paired with larger external storage)

Graphics Card: 2 GB minimum (4 GB recommended) – It is recommended that you visit the Adobe and Autodesk websites to review system requirements for individual software programs. The system requirements for Adobe Illustrator, for example, provide a list of video adapters that support the new Windows GPU Performance features in Illustrator.

Display: 1920x1080 resolution minimum; size is a tradeoff between portability and screen space

Network Card: Built-in wireless network card 802.11 (g or n), recommend built-in Bluetooth module

Ports: DVI output or an HDMI output, to connect a monitor. If you do not have an HDMI port, you must have an adapter.

REQUIRED ACCESSORIES

Storage External Hard Drive: Have one, at least .25 TB.

Input Optical mouse

Display External display – min. 22 in widescreen or similar recommended. To be kept at workstation with monitor lock. May require conversion cable (such as HDMI-to-DVI) to connect to laptop, depending on what output ports laptop has.

SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS

Operating System Windows 7 or newer and (if using a mac) macOS High Sierra.

Office Applications Microsoft Office, including Word, Excel, and PowerPoint (free for students)

Required Software (these software programs will be used in multiple courses, trial versions should not be relied upon):

Current versions of:

Adobe Creative Suite (PhotoShop, Illustrator, InDesign, Acrobat, After Effects), student version through UF bookstore

AutoCAD, Civil 3D (free educational version available through Autodesk)

Land F/X (free education version available through Land F/X)

Rhinoceros (student pricing available through McNeel), Grasshopper

Google Earth Pro (free)

Zip compression software (must be able to create a .zip file) – other compression software is not allowed.

Security

Computer must meet all UF information security requirements for students including antivirus software. Check with UF Computing Help Desk for current requirements.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software

Students are advised to wait to purchase GIS software until enrolled in a GIS course.

OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES

Output Device Color printer. A printer that accepts 11 x 17 paper is very helpful.

Input Devices A flatbed scanner. 11 x 17 if it's within budget, otherwise a standard 8 ½ x 11 inch scanner will suffice for most applications