

LAPTOP COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS

Students Entering Fall 2012

A personal computer is and will continue to be an important part of the educational experience. A student will need to have access to personal computer technologies as he or she moves through his or her educational experience at Eastern Illinois University. In some cases the personal computer may not be used in class but will be required to complete class assignments; in other instances the personal computer will be an integral part of the classroom experience.

Beginning Fall 2011 all entering freshmen art majors are required to have an Apple laptop computer. The hardware requirements are subject to change each year as Apple develops and markets new laptop models, which normally happens sometime during February or March. To provide you with a sense of the requirements the following are the Fall 2011 hardware requirements:

- For students interested in the Graphic Design option the recommended minimum configured laptop is the MacBook Pro 15-inch with 2.2GHz quad-core Intel Core i7, 4GB memory, 750GB hard drive, Intel HD Graphics 3000 processor and AMD Radeon HD 6750M with 1 GB GDDR5 graphics processor.
- For students interested in the Art Education, Art History or Studio Art options the recommended minimum configured laptop is the MacBook Pro 13-inch with 2.7GHz dual-core Intel Core i7, 4GB memory, 500GB hard drive, and Intel HD Graphics 3000 processor.

The above were minimum laptop requirements; if you are able to purchase an Apple laptop with greater processor speed, memory and/or screen size, then consider selecting that laptop. The department also recommends that all students purchase: (1) a 4GB flash drive for backup and easy transport of files; (2) carrying case or laptop backpack; (3) the extended warranty; and (4) either an external hard drive for backup or a remote backup service.

Software requirements are:

Microsoft Office (student edition), iWork, Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator. The Adobe Creative Suite 5 Design Standard (education version) includes the Adobe software programs listed above at less cost than purchasing them separately; purchase of the Adobe Design Standard Collection is strongly recommended for students interested in the Graphic Design option. Students accepted into the Graphic Design program beginning their Junior year (this would be Fall 2013 for students entering EIU in Fall 2011) will need to purchase the Adobe Creative Suite Master Collection (education version) at that time.

Before you purchase your computer and software for your college career, you should check the pricing available for computer and software bundles through the EIU Bookstore. Very reasonable pricing for software is often available, for example the current education price (as of March 2011) for the Adobe Creative Suite 5 Design Standard (education version) on-line at the Adobe website is \$299 while the EIU Bookstore price for the same collection is \$219.95. The EIU Bookstore is located in the MLK Student Union and can be reached at 217-581-7234 or 800-242-0757 or on the web at www.eiubookstore.com.