



DEVICE AND SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS - DISTANCE LEARNING 7.2020

In order to support compliance with the COVID-19 health and safety procedures that are recommended and/or mandated by the DE State Department of Health, DCAD made the decision to deliver its fall 2020 semester courses online. **This will require all DCAD students to have a computer that meets the minimum operational requirements as outlined by Populi®, Microsoft 365 and Adobe®.**

A computer or laptop is an important tool of a college student, used for everything from accessing the student portal for online course content (Populi) to using Adobe Creative Cloud software for assignments. A computer or laptop is also an investment that should last between 5-7 years. It is the sole responsibility of the student to make sure that they have a powerful enough device to access the tools needed to complete coursework.

- To review the system requirements to run Populi (LMS) online visit: <https://support.populiweb.com/hc/en-us/articles/223791927-Welcome-to-Populi->
- To review the system requirements to run Microsoft 365 online visit: <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/microsoft-365-and-office-resources#coreui-heading-5dcqxz4>
- To review the system requirements to run Zoom conferencing visit: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/204003179-System-Requirements-for-Zoom-Rooms>
- To review the system requirements to run Adobe Creative Cloud on Macintosh and Microsoft devices online visit: <https://helpx.adobe.com/creative-cloud/system-requirements.html>. Or refer to the tables below.

Student financing Windows (Microsoft) products: <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/store/b/education>

Student financing Apple (MAC) products: <https://www.apple.com/us-hed/shop/browse/financing>

Minimum System Requirements for Microsoft Computers or Laptops

	Minimum requirement
Processor	Intel® or AMD processor with 64-bit support; 2 GHz or faster processor
Operating system	Windows 10
RAM (Graphic Design, Illustration, Photography, Animation majors)	16 GB minimum (32 GB recommended)

Hard disk space (Graphic Design, Illustration, Photography majors)	3.1 GB or more of available hard-disk space 512 GB HD For animation majors, additional disk space for disk cache (10GB recommended)
Monitor resolution space (Graphic Design, Illustration, Photography majors)	1024 x 768 display (1280x800 recommended) with 16-bit color and 512 MB or more of dedicated VRAM; 2 GB is recommended
Monitor resolution space (Animation majors)	1920 x 1080 LED Display 720 pixel HD camera 1280x1080 or greater display resolution

Microsoft Device Recommendation

Hardware: DELL XPS 15 7590; 15.6-inch screen, 9th Gen Intel® Core™ processor, 32G memory, 1TB hard disk space.

Estimated Cost: \$1,700.00

Software: Adobe Creative Cloud (12-mo student rate)

\$239.88/year for first 12 months

\$359.88/year after 12 months

Estimated Cost (for 2 years): \$599.76

Recommended Support Devices

Although not required, students are HIGHLY encouraged to purchase an external Hard Drive to store their academic files and artwork on.

Macintosh/Apple Minimum Requirements Computers or Laptops

	Minimum requirement
Processor	Multicore Intel processor with 64-bit support
Operating system	MacOS version 10.12 (Sierra), macOS version 10.13 (High Sierra), or macOS version 10.14 (Mojave is the minimum)
RAM (Graphic Design, Illustration, Photography Animation majors)	16 GB minimum (32 GB recommended)

Hard disk space (Graphic Design, Illustration, Photography majors)	4 GB or more of available hard-disk space for installation; additional free space required during installation (cannot install on a volume that uses a case-sensitive file system meaning a partitioned HD: an O drive and a C drive both on the same installed SSD Hard Drive Adobe CC takes up about 100 MB of space; downloading and using the individual applications will require appx. 20 GB of space: Acrobat, Bridge, Indesign, Illustrator, Photoshop, Premier, Media Encoder)
Hard disk space (Animation majors)	6GB of available hard-disk space for installation; additional free space required during installation 512 GB HD Additional disk space for disk cache (10GB recommended)
(Graphic Design, Illustration, Photography majors)	1024 x 768 display (1280x800 recommended) with 16-bit color and 512 MB or more of dedicated VRAM; 2 GB is recommended Apple 13 inch Macbook Pro screen resolution: 2500 x 1600 px 720 px HD video camera
Monitor resolution space (Animation majors)	1440x900 or greater display resolution

Macintosh/Apple Device Purchase Recommendation

<https://www.apple.com/us-hed/shop/back-to-school>

Hardware Option 1:

13-inch MacBook Pro
 Apple M1 chip with 8-core CPU, 8-core GPU, and 16-core Neural Engine
 16GB unified memory (minimum)
 512GB SSD storage
 13-inch Retina display with True Tone
 Backlit Magic Keyboard - US English
 Touch Bar and Touch ID
 Two Thunderbolt / USB 4 ports
Estimated Cost: \$ 1579.00

Option 2:

16-inch MacBook Pro
 2.6GHz 6-core 9th-generation Intel
 Core i7 processor,
 Turbo Boost up to 4.5GHz
 32GB 2666MHz DDR4 memory
 (preferred)
 AMD Radeon Pro 5300M with 4GB of
 GDDR6 memory
 512GB SSD storage
 16-inch Retina display with True Tone
 Four Thunderbolt 3 ports
 Touch Bar and Touch ID
 Backlit Magic Keyboard
Estimated Cost: \$ 2559.00

Software: Adobe Creative Cloud (12-mo student rate)

\$239.88/year for first 12 months

\$359.88/year after 12 months

Estimated Cost (for 2 years): \$599.76

Recommended Support Devices

Although not required, students are HIGHLY encouraged to purchase an external Hard Drive to store their academic files and artwork on.

Recommended Make/Model:

LaCie 2TB Rugged USB-C / USB 3.0

Portable Hard Drive for backup

Estimated Cost: \$ 109.95

Questions about specific software needs should be directed to the Program Chair of that major:

Animation: Tad Sare

tsare@dcad.edu

Fine Art: Rachel Bomze

rbomze@dcad.edu

Graphic Design: John Breakey

jbreakey@dcad.edu

Illustration: Melissa Fitzgerald

mfitzgerald@dcad.edu

Photography: Ron Brignac

rbrignac@dcad.edu