Student Laptop Recommendations

Architecture and Interior Design

The architecture and interior design majors utilize a robust set of computer applications. The applications are the same that are used in the design industry, and include:

·   Autodesk AutoCAD

·   Autodesk Revit

·   SketchUp

·   Rhinoceros

·   Rendering softcare and plugins such as V-Ray, Lumion, Enscape, and/or Unreal

·   Creative Cloud - $19.99 a month (Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign)

It should be noted, currently, Autodesk Revit is a Windows only program. Using a Windows operating system is most efficient on a PC, but there are methods of accommodating this on an Apple OS. An Apple iPad Pro or Google Chromebook are NOT an acceptable substitution for your laptop. Major specific applications are not compatible with these devices.

In an effort to best support your computer needs as an architecture or interior design major, below are the following minimum computer requirements.

Component	Windows-based PC	Apple OS MacBook
Operating System	Windows 10 or later	OS 10.14 (Mojave) or later
CPU Processor or Model	Intel Core i7-4790, Xeon, Ryzen Threadripper PRO. 2.5 GHz or higher	MacBook Pro *The highest affordable CPU speed rating recommended.*
System RAM	32 GB recommended	32 GB recommended
Hard Drive	256 GB min	256 GB min
Monitor/Display	15" *Supporting 1920 x 1200 resolution with true color or higher.*	15" *Supporting 1920 x 1200 resolution with true color or higher.*

Video Adapter/Graphics Card	NVIDIA® GeForce RTX™ 3050 or better , AMD Radeon RX 5700XT or better.	Radeon Pro 555X with 4GB of GDDR5 memory and automatic graphics switching
Peripherals	Two-button mouse with scroll wheel//ball – corded or wireless acceptable 64gb or larger flash drive and adapter if necessary	

Software	Microsoft Office 365
	
	Adobe Create Cloud
	
	SketchUp
	
	Free for Samford Students
	
	    Autodesk AutoCAD
	
	    Autodesk Revitt
	
	Use of a cloud-based storage service – OneDrive, Box, DropBox, Google Drive
	
	Free or discounted educational versions are available for all software listed above.
		Microsoft Office 365
		
		Adobe Create Cloud
		
		SketchUp
		
		Free for Samford Students
		
		    Autodesk AutoCAD
		
		    Autodesk Revitt
		
		Use of a cloud-based storage service – OneDrive, Box, DropBox, Google Drive
		
		Free or discounted educational versions are available for all software listed above

If you purchase a MAC: The Service Desk recommends installing Parallels and running Windows from that. You can get both titles from HERE. Parallels is $39.99 for a one year subscription. There is no cost for Windows 10. Students will need to register with varsitybuys, but the company is safe.