BGSU STUDENT TECHNOLOGY GUIDE 2024-2025

BGSU ITS Recommended Minimum Hardware

If your major does not have specific hardware or software recommendations, Information Technology Services (ITS) recommends:

- i5 or i7 Intel® Core™, Apple M1, or equivalent processor
- Minimum 256GB internal storage, 512GB preferred
- 16GB RAM
- 3-4 year warranty

* *ITS does not recommend the use of Chromebooks because they are not compatible with many BGSU software applications.*

SPECIFIC TECHNOLOGY RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON MAJOR

The recommendations below are provided by the respective colleges and departments.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

American Culture Studies, Ethnic Studies, Popular Culture, Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies

- *ITS minimum recommendations*
- 11"minimum screen size
- 32GB or 64GB flash drive
- Wireless mouse

Computer Science

- i7 Intel® Core™ processor (or AMD equivalent) recommended (i5 Intel® Core™ processor minimum)
- 500GB internal storage minimum, Solid State Drive (SSD) recommended
- Typically, Windows OS. An Apple laptop with similar specifications is also acceptable. Note that newer Mac Silicon processors are not compatible with running Windows, which is used by some CS courses)
- 16GB RAM minimum

Film Production

Students are not required to purchase a computer or equipment to complete their degree. Students have access to the Film Production's Mac computer lab and rental equipment. Students who wish to purchase their own computer and/or equipment should follow these minimum recommendations:

- BGSU ITS minimum hardware recommended to complete basic coursework.
- If student plans to use their computer to edit video:
  - Mac Operating System recommended
  - Processor: minimum of base-level M1, M2, or M3
  - Hard drive: 512GB Solid State Drive (SSD)
  - Memory: 16GB RAM
  - If purchasing PC, suggested minimum of Intel i7 processor, dedicated 6GB graphics card, 512GB Solid State Drive (SSD), and 32GB of RAM
  - Recommended software: Adobe Creative Cloud* subscription or low/no-cost equivalent such as DaVinci Resolve*
  - Contact Stephen Crompton (stecrom@bgsu.edu) with questions regarding cameras or other equipment advice/suggestions

    * *All software listed is available in Film Production computer lab*

Media Production

- Software: Adobe Creative Cloud*, required
- External hard drive for backup required. 500GB minimum.

* *Find where Adobe Creative Cloud software is available in labs across campus at* ***bgsu.edu/labs.***

School of Cultural and Critical Studies

- *ITS minimum recommendations*
- 11" minimum screen size
- 32GB or 64GB flash drive
- Wireless mouse
- External hard drive/flash drive is optional

School of Art

- *ITS minimum recommendations*
- 500GB internal storage minimum, Solid State Drive (SSD) preferred
- Dedicated Video Card
- School of Art Labs are stocked with most classroom-required software and are open most evenings after class
- Contact the School of Art for further information/questions at 419-372-2786

Digital Arts

- Required Software: Adobe Creative Cloud
- Current macOS or Windows 11 (64-bit only)
- Check Adobe Creative Cloud system requirements prior to purchase
- First and Second Year Digital Arts Students can refer to the School of Art Basic Requirements
  - Third and Fourth Year students will have different requirements based on their focus (3D modeling, Digital Painting, Animation... etc.)
- Contact the School of Art for further information/questions at 419-372-2786

Graphic Design

- MacBook Pro – Silicon Chip
  - *ITS minimum recommendations*
  - 15" minimum screen size
  - 500GB+ Solid State Drive (SSD)
  - Current macOS
- Required Software: Adobe Creative Cloud
- Typeface library beyond built-in sets
- Contact the School of Art for further information/questions at 419-372-2786

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Interior Design

- Windows 11 64-bit (Macs are highly discouraged)
- i7 Intel® Core™ processor minimum, 14th generation; i9 Intel® Core™ processor preferred
- 500GB minimum internal storage, 1TB or larger Solid State Drive (SSD) preferred
- 16GB RAM minimum, 32GB RAM preferred
- 15" minimum screen size
- Dedicated Graphics Card (very important): Nvidia Quadro, Nvidia GeForce RTX, Nvidia GeForce 960M, 1060M, 1660M, 2060M, AMD Radeon Pro 5300M/5500M, AMD FirePro M4000 Mobility Pro (examples)
- External Solid State Drive (SSD) for backup recommended; flash drive required for most classes
- Mouse required for use with most design software; wireless mouse preferred
- Minimum 3-year warranty with theft and damage insurance
- Students must have administrator rights on their personal computer
- Full number pad integrated into laptop keyboard preferred
- Software: Autodesk Revit*, Autodesk AutoCAD*, SketchUp, 3DS Max, Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop and InDesign), Microsoft Office*. Students will be advised when/how to purchase or acquire software as needed for each course.

* *Free for students*

SCHMIDTHORST COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

- Windows 10 64-bit or Windows 11 64-bit (Macs and Chromebooks are highly discouraged)
- *ITS minimum recommendations`*
- 500GB hard drive minimum
- Office365 – Desktop Version

* *Free for students*

Applied Statistics & Operations Research

- Software: SPSS, RStudio, or R*

* *Free for students*

Marketing

- R/Studio*
- Multiple other in-person courses require students to bring their laptops to class on the day of essay exams (where they use LockDown Browser to take the exam).

* *Free for students*

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Nursing

- Software: Microsoft Office*
- Webcam required (integrated or external)

* *Free for students*

COLLEGE OF MUSICAL ARTS

- Software: Sibelius or Finale

COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY ARCHITECTURE & APPLIED ENGINEERING

Architectural and Environmental Design

Specs are based on running required programs at minimum requirements, such as Autodesk Revit, AutoDesk AutoCAD, SketchUp, 3DSMax, Adobe Creative Cloud, etc.

- Windows 10 or 11 64-bit (Macs are highly discouraged)
- 9th Generation i7 Intel® Core™ processor or AMD Ryzen 7 series or higher
- 16GB–32GB RAM minimum
- 500GB hard drive minimum, 1 or more TB (recommended) and Solid State Drive (SSD) hard drive preferred
- Video Processor: Nvidia Quadro RX 3060 or higher
- 15" minimum; touch screen not required
- External hard drive recommended for backup; flash drive required for most classes
- Wireless mouse
- Minimum 3-year warranty with theft and damage insurance
- Software: Adobe Creative Cloud, Sketchup, Autodesk Revit*, Autodesk AutoCAD, 3DS Max, Microsoft Office. Most of the programs recommended above provide students with a free student license so there is no need to purchase.

* *Free for students*

Aviation Flight Operations

- ForeFlight application on an iPad

Construction Management

- Windows 10 64-bit recommended
- 1TB or greater capacity external hard drive or Solid State Drive (SSD) recommended

Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering Technology

- *ITS minimum recommendations*
- Windows devices preferred; SolidWorks, Mastercam and ANSYS only work on Windows

Mechatronics Engineering Technology

- Windows 10 64-bit recommended
- *ITS minimum recommendations*
- Microsoft Office 64-bit
- Graphics Card: Video memory 512MB+ (support for OpenGL 2.0 or Direct3D 11 is required for the 3D module)
- Hard drive with 5GB of free space (additional space may be required for Automation Studio catalogs)

Visual Communication Technology

Students are not required to purchase a computer to complete their degree and can utilize computer labs. Technology equipment other than laptop or desktop computers, such as external storage devices, are required.

- Either Mac laptop with M1 processor or Windows laptop with 10th generation Intel core i7, or greater recommended
- 512GB Solid State Drive (SSD) required
- 16GB RAM minimum
- Software: Adobe Creative Cloud*
- DSLR Camera (video capable)
- 1TB external hard drive for backup. 32GB or greater SD card with a class 6 or greater speed rating
- Accessories: a DSLR or Mirrorless camera capable of video.

** Adobe Creative Cloud is available to use in the VCT computer lab. Students wishing to complete assignments using their personal devices must purchase the software separately.*

GRADUATE COLLEGE

Doctor of Physical Therapy

For technology requirements and recommendations for the DPT program, please visit this website.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES (ITS)

Information Technology Services is the central point of contact for questions and support regarding technology on campus.

Student Services

- Free hardware repairs for Dell and Apple computers covered by warranty
- Open computer labs (walk-in use)
- BGSU account support
- Campus-wide printing from personal devices and computer labs
- Cloud file storage using OneDrive
- Office 365 – five free installations of Microsoft Office suite
- Self-help guides for connecting your devices - **www.bgsu.edu/studentconnect**

Printing

- The estimated cost of using a personal printer is double the cost of using campus printers
- Personal wireless printers are blocked from accessing the BGSU network
- Add money to your BG1 card to print via campus printers
- Print from your laptop, phone or tablet to any student printer on campus - **www.bgsu.edu/studentprinting**

Safeware

Safeware is an extended service protection plan (like an insurance plan or extended warranty) sold at Falcon Outfitters. The Safeware plan protects computers and tablets for up to four years against claims that your computer warranty may not cover such as accidental damage, liquid spills, manufacturing defects and power surges. Benefits include no out-of-pocket expenses and a hassle-free claims process.

BGSU | Information Technology Services

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

www.bgsu.edu/its

25ITS8717