

Fall 2016 - CAD Student Laptop Specifications for Landscape Architecture

These computer requirements apply to all Landscape Architecture graduate students entering the program in Fall 2016.

Required Hardware ⁽¹⁾	*Apple Macbook Pro 15"	*Dell XPS 15"
Processor	205GHz quad-core Intel Core i8, Turbo Boost up to 3.7GHz	6th Generation Intel Core i7-6700HQ Quad Core (6M Cache, up to 3.5 GHz)
Memory	16GB 1600MHz DDR3L SDRAM	16GB DDR4-2133MHz
Hard Drive ⁽²⁾	512GB PCIe-based Flash Storage	512GB PCIe Solid State Drive
Graphics Card	Intel Iris Pro Graphics + AMD Radeon R9 M370X with 2GB GDDR5 memory	NVIDIA® GeForce® GTX 960M with 2GB GDDR5
Display	15.4-inch (diagonal) LED-backlit (2880x1800)	15.6" FHD (1920 x 1080) InfinityEdge
Optical Drive	n/a	n/a
Ethernet	n/a	n/a
Wireless	802.11ac Wi-Fi wireless networking; IEEE 802.11a/b/g/n compatible	DW1830 3x3 802.11ac 2.4/5GHz
Bluetooth	Bluetooth 4.0 wireless technology	Bluetooth 4.1
Webcam	720p FaceTime HD camera	Widescreen HD (720p) webcam with dual array digital microphones
Ports	MagSafe 2 power port Two Thunderbolt 2 ports (2) USB 3 ports (2) HDMI port 3.5 mm headphone jack SDXC card slot	HDMI Port USB 3.0 (x2) with PowerShare Headset Jack (1) SD card reader (SD, SDHC, SDXC) Kensington Lock slot Thunderbolt™ 3 (1)
Operating System	OS X El Capitan	Windows 10 Home 64-bit English
Weight	4.49 pounds	4.4 lbs
Warranty	3 Year AppleCare Protection Plan	3 Year Premium Support
Sub-Total	\$2,766.42 (Auburn Bookstore)	\$2,018.99 (Dell University)
External 1TB Backup	2TB External hard drive \$140.00	2TB External hard drive \$140.00
Required Hardware Total	\$2906.42	\$2158.99

Required Software		
Microsoft Windows 7 Pro ⁽³⁾	\$115.00	n/a
Microsoft Office 365 Pro	Free Download	Free Download
Adobe Creative Cloud	\$239.88	\$239.88
Required Software Total	\$354.88	\$239.88

Supplemental Software ⁽⁴⁾		
Rhino (Windows)	\$139.95	\$139.95
Grasshopper(Windows)	Free Download	Free Download
V-Ray for Rhino (Windows)	\$154.95	\$154.95
3DS Max (Windows)	Free Download	Free Download
AutoCAD (Windows/Mac)	Free Download	Free Download
SketchUP Pro	\$49.00	\$49.00
Google Earth Pro	Free Download	Free Download
ArcGIS (Windows)	Free Download	Free Download
Supplemental Software Total	\$343.90	\$343.90

Total Required Items ⁽⁵⁾	\$3250.32	\$2398.87
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1) Hardware Notes

The hardware above has been tested by the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape Architecture and is recommend. The specifications above have been proven to provide the necessary backbone to successfully run the required programs within the program. It is recommended that you consult the APLA-IT department at 334.844.8808 before purchasing equipment that does not meet the specs above in order to ensure the equipment you are purchasing can perform the operations required.

2) Hard Drive Notes

SSD hard drives are the latest innovation in computer hardware, and they represent a major advance over traditional HDD hard drives. The computer industry is in a transitional period between traditional HDD hard drives and these newer SSD hard drives. SSD drives have much faster access times than do HDD drives, but their cost is currently many times higher. There are also HDD hybrid drives which offer many of the advantages of SSD drives, but at a substantially lower cost. HDD hybrid drives are perfectly acceptable for the **Landscape Architecture program**.

3) Windows 7 Notes

If you choose to purchase a Macbook Pro, it will need to be *BootCamped in order to run the software required for the program*. In order to install and run the Windows OS, the Mac's hard drive will need to be partitioned 50% Mac and 50% Windows. For this reason it is recommended that the optional upgrade to the 1024GB SSD drive be selected.

4) Supplemental Software

Rhino, Grasshopper, V-Ray, 3DS, CAD, and GIS are all supplemental software packages that may be required by some course instructors.

5) Pricing Notes

All pricing is subject to change. To ensure you are getting the best price on equipment and software please contact Steven Wall, or the Auburn Bookstore.

Contact Steven Wall (wallstk@auburn.edu / ph. 334.844.8808) with questions regarding these notes.