**DEPARTMENT OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE**

LAPTOP REQUIREMENTS

Students enrolling in landscape architecture are required to own a laptop computer with the required software listed below installed. Students are required to possess basic computer literacy before beginning the landscape architecture curriculum.

Please note:

Mac operating systems are not supported by several key software packages commonly used in design. It is possible to run Windows-based software on a Mac through programs like BootCamp or Parallels, but this is only recommended for advanced users.

LAPTOP

Processor*: Intel i5 Dual Core or Quad Core i7 CPU*

Memory: *At least 16 GB*

Storage: *At least 256 GB SSD Hard Drive*

Graphics Card: *2 GB minimum (4 GB recommended) – It is recommended that you visit the Adobe and Autodesk websites to review system requirements for individual software programs. The system requirements for Adobe Illustrator, for example, provide a list of video adapters that support the new Windows GPU Performance features in Illustrator.*

Display: *1920x1080 resolution minimum; size is a tradeoff between portability and screen space*

Network Card: *Built-in wireless network card 802.11 (g or n)*, recommend *built-in Bluetooth module*

Ports: *DVI output or an HDMI output, to connect a monitor. If you do not have an HDMI port, you must have an adapter.*

REQUIRED ACCESSORIES

Storage: *At least 1 TB External Hard Drive (2TB recommended)*

External Display: *If your laptop screen is smaller that 15”, you will need to purchase a 22” widescreen monitor (or larger), to be kept at workstation with monitor lock. You may also need to purchase a conversion cable such as HDMI-to-DVI, depending on your laptop’s output.*

Audio: *Headset with microphone.*

Other: *Optical mouse, printer & flatbed scanner*

SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS

Operating System: *Microsoft® Windows 10 (64 bit only) and (if using a Mac) Mac OS X v10.12 and later*

Office Suite: *Microsoft Office, including Word, Excel, and PowerPoint (free for students)*

Graphic Design Software: *Latest versions of:*

* *Adobe Creative Cloud for students (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Acrobat Pro, After Effects) - available through UF bookstore*
* *AutoCAD, Civil 3D (*[*free educational version available through Autodesk*](http://www.autodesk.com/education/free-software/all)*)*
* *Land F/X (free education version available through Land F/X)*
* *McNeel Rhinoceros 6.0 (*[*student pricing available through McNeel*](https://www.rhino3d.com/sales/north-america/United_States)*),*
* *Grasshopper (Free, come with McNeel Rhinoceros 6.0)*
* *V-Ray for Rhino (*[*student pricing available through Chaosgroup*](https://www.chaosgroup.com/vray/rhino#pricing)*)*
  + *Students are advised to wait to purchase V-Ray until enrolled in Advanced Design Communication course*
* *Google Earth Pro (*[*free*](https://www.google.com/earth/explore/products/desktop.html)*)*
* *SketchUp*
* *Zip compression software (must be able to create a .zip file).*

Security: *Computer must meet all UF information security requirements for students including antivirus software. Check with UF Computing Help Desk for current requirements.*

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software: *Students are advised to wait to purchase GIS software until enrolled in a GIS course.*

OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES

Other: *Color printer that accepts 11x17; flatbed scanner that accepts 11x17; Graphics Tablet (e.g. Wacom CTL4100 Intuos Graphics Drawing Tablet, or graphics tablet with screen); adapter to connect laptop with projectors and other presentation displays.*

*Updated: April 29, 2020*