

The Art and Design **Bring Your Own Device** Program:

Students enrolled in Art & Design studio courses which includes creative software assignments must provide their own laptops. The Art & Design Department will provide the required software through individual subscription licenses. In a separate email, Suffolk Information Technology Services will send specifics on how to access the required programs.

The Adobe Creative Suite, which includes Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Xd, Acrobat, will be available to all students enrolled in all studio courses. Interior Design Specific applications such as Revit, Sketchup, Enscape, and V-Ray will be provided to interior Design students whose courses require them.

It is very important to understand how the operating systems used by Personal Computers (**Windows**) and Apple Computers (**Mac**) impact the applications they can support. While Windows supports the Adobe Creative Suite and all Interior Design applications, Macs do not support Revit and have limited compatibility with V-Ray and Enscape.

Interior design students can use a Mac laptop for first and second year courses. Third and Fourth year courses utilize Windows only software.

Choosing a computer that best serves your studio major courses is important from both an academic and career development perspective. The faculty of the Art and Design department suggest the following:

Preferred Art and Design laptops

- If you are a Graphic Design or a Studio Art Major, you can choose either the Windows or Mac operating system. Our faculty recommend Apple computers running the Mac platform because of their robust graphic capabilities. Apple is recognized as the industry standard for Graphic Designers.
- If you are an Interior Design Major, it is highly recommended that you choose a machine with a Windows operating system. Windows based computers are the Interior Design standard. Apple computers with Mac Operating systems cannot run Windows-only applications such as Revit. This is important because Revit is an essential tool for an Interior Design career.

Laptop Specifications for Windows and Mac

WINDOWS PLATFORM – For Interior Design, Graphic Design and Studio Art Majors

IMPORTANT NOTES:

Interior Design majors must have a Windows laptop meeting or exceeding the specifications listed below. Apple computers cannot run Windows-only applications such as Revit, V-Ray and Enscape will have limitations on MAC machines.

Specifications below are recommended minimums.

- Processor:
 - Intel – 12th generation Core i7 or better
 - AMD – Ryzen 7 or better
- Memory: 16 GB or greater
 - Memory should be removable and upgradable.
- Operating System: Windows 10 or 11
 - Professional version is preferred.
 - Home version may be upgraded to Professional after purchase if desired.
- Storage: 1 TB or greater SSD
- Display: 15 inches or larger: 1920 x 1080 Resolution
- Graphics card: discrete graphics card is required. The cards listed below meet the requirement

For applications used in Interior Design:

- 8 GB VRAM minimum
- Nvidia
 - GeForce RTX 3050 or better (gaming/general purpose)
 - RTX A2000 or better (professional)
- AMD
 - Not recommended as Nvidia drivers have greater stability
- Audio: Built-in audio capabilities: Speaker/Microphone
- Webcam
- Network: Wireless (802.11a/b/g/n/ac): Dual Band (2.4 and 5.0 GHz)
- Expansion Ports: Two USB 3.0 and/or USB-C 3.1/3.2

MAC PLATFORM – for Graphic Design and Studio Art majors

IMPORTANT NOTES:

The Macintosh operating is frequently updated. Students will have access to the newest software updates when they become available.

MacBook Pro is the preferred model. Either screen size is appropriate.

- Processor: Apple Silicon M1 or better
- Memory: 16 GB or greater
- Operating System: mac OS 11 (Big Sur)
- Storage: 500 GB or greater
- Display: 13 inches or larger Retina Display
- Audio: Built-in audio capabilities: Speaker/Microphone
- Webcam
- Network: Wireless (802.11a/b/g/n/ac): Dual Band (2.4 and 5.0 GHz)
- Expansion Ports: Two USB 3.0 and/or USB-C/Thunderbolt 3

HOW TO CHECK YOUR COMPUTER'S SPECS

For a Mac, check the specs by clicking on the Apple menu icon in the upper-left corner of your screen and selecting "About This Mac". Click "System Report" for more in-depth specs.

For a PC, check the specs by pressing the Windows logo key and Pause/Break key on your keyboard at the same time to open the System window. If your keyboard doesn't have a Pause/Break key, click the Start button and type "Control", click "Control Panel" in the search results, and click "System".

Please visit this link for information on the laptop specifications for Art and Design and links to the **Information Technology Services** (ITS) Department.

<https://www.suffolk.edu/about/directory/information-technology-services/support/hardware>