



All Architecture & Interior Design majors must have their own laptop computer by the Spring Semester of their first year.

These majors utilize a robust set of computer applications. The applications we use are the same applications used in the design industry, and include:

- Autodesk AutoCAD
- Autodesk Revit
- SketchUp
- Rhinoceros
- Various rendering plug-ins such as Enscape, V-Ray, or Lumion
- Adobe Creative Suite: Photoshop, Illustrator, 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 OS laptop will provide easier integration with the Catalyst iPad program in the School of the Arts.

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 10.15 Catalina or later
CPU Processor or Model	AMD Ryzen 5 2600, Intel Core i7, Intel Xeon, or better <i>The highest affordable CPU speed rating recommended.</i>	MacBook Pro <i>The highest affordable CPU speed rating recommended.</i>
System RAM	16 GB minimum 32 GB is best	16 GB minimum 32 GB is best
Hard Drive	256 GB	256 GB
Monitor/Display	15" <i>Supporting 1920 x 1200 resolution with true color or higher.</i>	15" <i>Supporting 1920 x 1200 resolution with true color or higher.</i>
Video Adapter/Graphics Card	NVIDIA GeForce RTX 2070, NVIDIA Quadro RTX 4000, AMD Radeon RX 5700XT or better	Radeon Pro 555X with 4GB of GDDR5 memory and automatic graphics switching
Audio	Windows compliant sound-card	Built in

Network Adapters	Wi-Fi included <i>A wired ethernet adapter and ethernet cable may be useful for faster connection.</i>	Wi-Fi included <i>A wired ethernet adapter and ethernet cable may be useful for faster connection.</i>
Warranty	At the student's discretion	At the student's discretion
Peripherals	Wireless optical two-button mouse with scroll wheel/ball Webcam with full video & audio functionality – built in or external is acceptable Additional external monitor and keyboard <i>Recommended</i> 8GB USB thumb drive and an external hard drive for backups – 1 TB <i>Recommended</i>	Wireless optical two-button mouse with scroll wheel/ball Webcam with full video & audio functionality – built in or external is acceptable Additional external monitor and keyboard <i>Recommended</i> 8GB USB thumb drive and an external hard drive for backups – 1 TB <i>Recommended</i>
Software	Microsoft Office 365 <i>Free for Samford Students</i> Adobe Creative Cloud Autodesk AutoCAD SketchUp Autodesk Revit Webex and Zoom Plug-ins Use of a cloud-based storage service – OneDrive, Box, DropBox, Google Drive <i>Free or discounted educational versions are available for all software listed above.</i>	Microsoft Office 365 <i>Free for Samford Students</i> Adobe Creative Cloud Autodesk AutoCAD SketchUp Autodesk Revit Webex and Zoom Plug-ins Use of a cloud-based storage service – OneDrive, Box, DropBox, Google Drive <i>Free or discounted educational versions are available for all software listed above.</i> Bootcamp, Parallels, or Frame with a Windows 10 operating system will also need to be installed on all Mac-based laptops.