THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA

Laptop Specifications

For Architecture and Planning students, a more robust laptop system than appears on the Technology Services website is required. The system needs to have increased processor speed, RAM and graphics capabilities because of the software the students use on their laptops. Please be aware that it is mandatory for all Architecture and Planning students to have a laptop. Finally, you won't be using your laptop for architecture software until second semester (January), so you don't need to have one in the Fall.

Hardware

- System Type: Laptop or 2-n-1
- Processor: Intel® Core™ i7, 9th generation; quad core if possible
- Processor Speed: 3.0GHz or higher
- Operating System: Windows 10 64-bit
- Display size: 15.6" or higher
- Display type: Touchscreen
- Memory: 16GB or higher (Please make sure that your laptop is capable of installing more RAM if +necessary)
- Hard Drive: 500 GB solid state drive
- Accessories: Wireless mouse, stylus and laptop lock

Recommended Software (wait until 2nd semester to purchase architecture software):

- Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint
- Adobe Creative Cloud (Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, DC)
- AutoCAD
- Revit
- Rhinoceros
- SketchUp

***The School does not use Apple operating systems. Please do not purchase an iMac, MacBook, MacBook Pro, or any MacBook Air hardware from Apple to use as your main system. Students have had a multitude of issues using Apple products for their main laptop such as printing, software compatibility issues, lack of hardware resources, and partitioning issues. We highly recommend going with a Microsoft Windows operating system. ***