

TECHNOLOGY STATEMENT

IWU Design Programs

The Graphic Design program of the Division of Art + Design at Indiana Wesleyan University requires all enrolled (Minor and BA) students to have a personal computer for their design studies. While the Division of Art + Design provides first-rate studios and shared learning resources, it is essential for design students to have ready access to computer technology outside of the classroom at any given moment. The ability to mobilize projects on and off campus is vital to student learning, as necessitated by the ever-changing design field, rapid technology changes, and the need for collaboration with other designers. Access to readily available technology naturally develops confidence and computer proficiency with every design project students complete; this is vital for the world they face.

Computer Requirements for Design at Indiana Wesleyan University

The IWU Design program require Macintosh computers for all design students. While there are many options outside of the Apple product line that can handle design work, please know that all course labs, workshops, and teaching demonstrations utilize the Mac platform, which is the preferred choice of the faculty. Aligning with faculty for a better learning experience will help students succeed, provides professional practice, and establishes knowledge of industry standards in our design fields. Below are specific minimum requirements for hardware and software needs. We strongly recommend the purchase of a laptop option over a desktop for ease of use and flexibility. If you have questions not addressed in the sections below, contact the Division of Art + Design office.

Hardware

Apple computers continue to be an industry standard for design. Most models (configurations) of the MacBook Pro and iMac will be sufficient, but one may want to look closely at hardware options. Here are a few things to consider: Higher processor speeds result in faster processing of files. Processor speed is measured in gigahertz (GHz). Memory or RAM is measured in gigabytes (GB). Greater GHz and RAM equal greater working speed and usability.

Insurance + Discounts

While Apple provides high-quality computers, it's not uncommon to experience hardware and technology issues with your machine. For this reason, we strongly recommend that you consider the addition of the AppleCare Service plan. The AppleCare plan will protect your investment for a minimum of three years and can save you hundreds of dollars should an issue occur. Lastly, Apple and Adobe offer discount rates for students that significantly helps with the final costs.

Macintosh Recommendations

Laptop Minimum: (Strongly Recommended)

Any current 14" or 16" MacBook Pro models or MacBook Air 15" model

Processor: 12 Core M4 Pro CPU

Graphics Processor (GPU): 16 Core GPU

Unified Memory (RAM): 24GB (more preferred if possible)

Storage: 512GB SSD (more preferred if possible)

Insurance: 3 year Apple Care Plan

Software Requirements

Student + Teacher Adobe Creative Cloud License ("All Apps" \$19.99 monthly)

Adobe Font Folio Education Essentials

Other Recommendations

Thunderbolt to USB hub

Headphones

External/Portable hard drive (for back-ups)

High-capacity memory stick

Digital camera (*only later in the program*)

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