

Personal Computer Recommendations for Students

For general communication and network access, you will need a personal computer in order to be able to review the assigned weekly course requirements using special course software. There are a few computers available in the College for your use, however, when you decide to buy or update your own, the requirements to support the software include:

	RECOMMENDED	MINIMUM
Processor	Intel 13 th Gen Core i5 - Core i7 or higher (or the AMD equivalent), Apple M3 chip	Intel 11 th Gen Core i5 or higher (or the AMD equivalent), Apple M1 chip
Operating System	Windows 11; Mac OS 15.0 or higher [†]	Windows 11; Mac OS 13.0 or higher [†]
Hard Drive	500 GB or more SSD	250 GB
Memory (RAM)	16 GB or more	8 GB
Screen Size ^{††}	13" diagonal or larger	13" diagonal
Video output	Digital video output, such as an HDMI or Thunderbolt/Mini DisplayPort	Digital video output, such as an HDMI or Thunderbolt/Mini DisplayPort
Warranty	3 Years or more parts and labor + Accidental Protection	3 Years parts and labor
Wireless ^{†††}	For information on UIC wireless access, including requirements please see https://it.uic.edu/services/faculty-staff/uic-network/uic-wifi/ . Read the specifications carefully, your computer must meet the requirements to access the campus wireless network.	
Region	Manufactured for U.S. only	

Optional Considerations - Almost always, your tradeoffs are size, weight, price

- All of the instruction materials you are required to use will run under either the Windows or Macintosh platform. The decision whether to purchase a Windows or Macintosh-based computer must be made by each student.
- Upgrade to Solid State Drive (SSD) on laptops offering SSD to improve performance, especially during startup. Upgrade to larger, high-speed (7200 rpm vs. 5400 rpm) hard drive for improved performance by allowing faster access to applications and documents. SSDs generally do not store as much as you can on a traditional HD but are lighter and faster. Consider an external drive for storing more data.
- Upgrade to larger battery if weight is not a concern to increase the time laptop can be used without having to plug into a power outlet for recharge. Be aware that batteries degrade over time and must be replaced when run time is no longer sufficient.
- Purchase screen size 13" or higher. A larger screen generally provides higher resolution and therefore more information fits on the screen at one time. If scrolling is a problem, then consider a computer with a larger screen. A full-size keyboard is suggested but going beyond a 15" screen is not recommended due to added weight and finding a 17" laptop is becoming rare. This is your call; however, you have to look at it and you have to carry it around. Students are expected to bring their laptop to class for use in classroom activities.

[†] The axiUm Remote Portal might not function correctly in the Apple Safari browser, which is the default browser on Mac devices. Please download and use Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox browsers instead if you experience issues.

^{††} The axiUm Remote Portal web interface functions best on-screen sizes 13" or higher. On laptops with 13" screens, the web browser needs to be run in full-screen mode. On laptops with screens smaller than 13", AxiUm will **not** run in the remote portal web interface.

^{†††} UIC-WiFi uses [WPA2 Enterprise Security](#). WPA2 Enterprise implements the [802.11i security standard](#), which includes [AES encryption](#) and [802.1x authentication](#). The specific authentication method that we use is [PEAP-MSCHAPv2](#).

"Referenced from the UIC College of Medicine's Computer Requirements,
<https://medicine.uic.edu/education/md/md-curriculum/educational-technology-information/>"

Update: 02/17/2025