

2014-2015 ATM Computer & Software Specifications

Computer Requirements:

A laptop computer that you can bring to class is required for several ATM courses. For these courses, much of the work, which includes daily activities and exams, must be done in the classroom and not at another location.

You may purchase the laptop brand of your choice—as long as it is capable of running the required software. The minimum hardware requirements are listed below. Also check the software websites, which are included below, for specific hardware requirements.

Minimal PC Laptop Requirements:

- Windows® 8 Standard, Enterprise, or Professional edition, Windows® 7 Enterprise, Ultimate, Professional, or Home Premium edition operating system
- Intel i5, or i7 series processor or comparable
- 6 GB RAM (8 GB recommended)
- 500 GB Hard Drive
- 16 GB flash drive
- 1,366 x 768 display resolution minimum

Print the hardware requirements listed above and/or from the software website and take them with you or send them to the hardware dealer. This will allow you to directly compare what is written on your receipt or order to the requirements.

Minimal Macintosh Laptop Requirements:

- Mac OS X 10.9 (Mavericks) OS.
- Intel i5, or i7 series processor or comparable
- 4 GB RAM (6 GB recommended)
- 500 GB Hard Drive
- 16 GB flash drive
- 1,366 x 768 display resolution minimum

NOTE: Any new Mac or one that is less than a year old should meet the requirements without issues.

Print the hardware requirements listed above and/or from the software website and take them with you or send them to the hardware dealer. This will allow you to directly compare what is written on your receipt or order to the requirements.

General Accessory Requirements:

- **Mouse:** Using a mouse may substantially speed up the process when using graphics software. Bring the mouse to class.
- **Color printer:** Either inkjet or laser, with resolution of 600 dpi or higher for printing projects to turn in. Although a printer that prints letter (8 ½" x 11") or legal (8 ½" x 14") is quite sufficient, one that can print tabloid (11" x 17") or larger documents is even better, depending on the size of your portfolio and other projects. The MSU library does have large-format printers capable of printing posters and other sizable documents.

Required Software:

It is generally better to purchase software shortly before you need to use it to avoid problems with upgrades. You may install Microsoft Office and Acrobat immediately, as they are used in all courses. For other software, consult your professors. Visit the websites for the software to get the hardware specifications **before** purchasing your laptop computer. This is the only way to assure that the hardware will be compatible with the software.

- **AutoCAD 2014** or other, recent version (not AutoCAD LT). AutoCAD is available to students without cost through Autodesk's website: <http://www.autodesk.com/education/free-software/autocad>
Also, be sure to check the system requirements here: <http://usa.autodesk.com/autocad/system-requirements/>
- **Microsoft Office 2010 or 2013**, including Word and Excel. A four-year academic license can be purchased using an msstate.edu email address (for student verification) from Amazon.com. <http://amzn.com/B009VL9YGU>
- **Adobe Creative Suite** Standard, Premium, or Master Collection, including Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, and Acrobat. This software can be purchased with a student discount from Amazon.com: <http://amzn.com/B0096DZL10>. This supplies students with a one-year Adobe Creative Suite license and reduces the price from \$1,299 to \$299/year. On Amazon.com, there is also a monthly subscription option for \$29.00/month here: <http://amzn.com/B00CS766GK>

For more information about the required software for specific courses, consult the instructor. For general questions about hardware and software requirements, contact Dr. Phyllis Miller (662-325-8783 or 662-312-2938) or pbmiller@humansci.msstate.edu) or the Human Sciences Technology Administrator, Hagan Walker, at hwalker@humansci.msstate.edu. For assistance with software installation of hardware issues, you may also contact the MSU Help desk at 662-325-0631.