

Information Technology & Management Notebook PC Specifications

While we do not currently require students enrolled in the Information Technology & Management (ITM) degree program to own a notebook computer, it will certainly enhance your student experience to have one.

Standards below reflect specifications for notebook computers for use by ITM students; each category is broken down into recommended, minimum and, where applicable, optional specifications. Your system may run **any** operating system but must be able to run Microsoft Windows 7 Professional as the primary operating system or as a secondary (dual-boot) operating system or as a virtual machine using virtualization software. Please consider these specifications if you are purchasing a notebook computer for use in our program. If you have questions about these specifications, please contact Ray Trygstad, trygstad@iit.edu or 630.447.9009.

ITEM	RECOMMENDED	MINIMUM	OPTIONAL
Processor	Intel Core i5 Mobile AMD Turion II	Intel Core i3 / Atom AMD Athlon II / E series	Intel Core i7 Mobile AMD Phenom II
◆ You may not be able to run virtualization software adequately without VT or AMD-V technology.			
RAM Memory	4GB or greater	1GB	8GB RAM is optimal to run Windows 7/8 & virtualization
◆ You may not be able to run all necessary applications with only 512 MB of RAM.			
◆ You may not be able to run virtualization software optimally with only 4 GB of RAM.			
Operating System	Microsoft Windows 7 or 8.1 Professional	Microsoft Windows 7 Professional	Linux or Solaris Macintosh OS/X Windows 8.1 Ultimate Windows Server 2008/2012
◆ MacBooks must have BootCamp, Oracle VirtualBox, Parallels Desktop or Vmware Fusion installed allowing running of Microsoft operating systems. VirtualBox is available for free at http://www.virtualbox.org/ . VirtualBox is the recommended desktop virtualization solution in our program.			
◆ Linux or Solaris notebooks must have Oracle VirtualBox, Xen, KVM, or VMWare Workstation installed allowing running of Microsoft operating systems. VirtualBox is available for free at http://www.virtualbox.org/ . VirtualBox is the recommended desktop virtualization solution in our program.			
◆ Microsoft, Linux & Solaris OS software is all available at no cost to all ITM students but you should purchase a system that will support Windows 7 Professional as a minimum standard.			
◆ Ubuntu and Ubuntu variants Linux Mint and Pinguy, OpenSUSE, and Fedora are recommended Linux distributions.			
◆ Window 7 Home version will not support all software or OS functions you may need in our curriculum.			
Hard Drive	500GB	64GB	256GB or 512GB SSD
◆ 120/128GB minimum suggested for dual boot with Windows and Linux/Solaris or for use with Windows Virtual PC or Hyper-V.			
Optical drive (May be external)	24-48X CD-RW/DVD-RW	24x CD-RW/DVD-R	Blu-Ray
Floppy drive	Neither required or expected		3.5 inch 1.44MB
Graphics card	128MB or greater, 24-bit color	64MB 24-bit color	
Display resolution	1280x1024 XGA or greater	1024x768 SVGA	
Wireless Network	802.11g/n	802.11g	4G (Sprint & Clear in Chicago)
Network Port	1000Base-T ethernet	100Base-T ethernet	56K modem
◆ Virtually all notebook PCs sold today include a gigabit (1000Base-T) ethernet port as standard items.			
Peripheral Port	3 USB-2	1 USB-2	IEEE 1394 (FireWire) USB-3 eSATA
Office Software	LibreOffice	LibreOffice	Microsoft Office 2007 or greater
◆ LibreOffice is available for free at http://www.libreoffice.org/ .			
◆ A four-year student subscription to Microsoft Office 365 may be purchased by IIT students at http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-office-365-university-FX102918415.aspx			
Anti-Virus Software	including all current updates		Optional on Mac/Linux
◆ IIT provides a licensed version of McAfee VirusScan for use by all students, faculty & staff; Microsoft Security Essentials—which is free from Microsoft—is also recommended.			
You may not operate any version of Microsoft Windows on IIT networks without installed anti-virus software.			

Students should have a flash/thumb drive for lab use; 2GB minimum is recommended.

See page 13 above for software available at no cost to ITM students.