Information Technology & Management Notebook PC Specifications

While we do not currently require students who enrolled in the Information Technology & Management (ITM) degree program prior to Fall 2016 to own a notebook computer, it will certainly enhance your student experience to have one. Students entering the department in Fall 2016 and later are required to own a notebook computer.

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 8.1 Professional as the primary operating system or as a secondary (dual-boot) operating system or as a virtual machine using virtualization software. These are specifications you must meet 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/OPTIMAL
Processor (CPU)	Intel Core i7 AMD A8	7th Gen Intel Core i5 AMD A4	Intel Core i7 HQ or MQ AMD A10
◆ *You may not be able to run virtualization software adequately without VT or AMD-V technology, not found in older CPUs.*			
RAM Memory	8GB or greater	8GB	16GB RAM optimal to run Windows 7/10 & virtualization
◆ *16GB or more of RAM is highly desirable.*			
Operating System	Microsoft Windows 10 Education	Microsoft Windows 8.1 Professional	Linux or Solaris Macintosh OS/X Windows Server 2008/2012
◆ *MacBooks must have BootCamp, Oracle VirtualBox, Parallels Desktop or Vmware Fusion installed allowing running of Microsoft operating systems.* ◆ *Linux or Solaris notebooks must have Oracle VirtualBox, Xen, KVM, or VMware Workstation installed allowing running of Microsoft operating systems.* ◆ *Oracle VirtualBox, our **recommended** desktop virtualization solution, is available for free at http://www.virtualbox.org/.* ◆ *Microsoft and Linux software is available at no cost to all ITM students but you should purchase a system that will support Windows 8.1 Professional as a minimum standard. Windows 10 Education is available free to all ITM students and is the most complete version of Windows. Windows **Home** versions will not support all software or OS functions you will need in our curriculum.* ◆ *Ubuntu and Ubuntu varients Kubuntu, Linux Mint, and Pinguy, as well as OpenSUSE are recommended Linux distributions.*			
Hard Drive	1TB	500GB	SSD – 512GB or 1TB 7200 RPM hard drive(s)
Optical drive (May be external)	24-48x CD-RW/DVD-RW	24x CD-RW/DVD-R	Blu-Ray / Blu-Ray-R External drive for Surface or Air
Floppy drive	Neither required or expected		3.5 inch 1.44MB
Graphics card Display resolution	1GB or greater, 24-bit color 1600x1200 UXGA or greater	256MB 24-bit color 1280x1024 XGA	1440x900 WXGA+
Wireless Network	IEEE 802.11ac w/WPA2	IEEE 802.11g/n	4G Wireless
Network Port	1000Base-T ethernet	100Base-T ethernet	(USB Adaptor is OK)
◆ *Virtually all notebook PCs sold today include a gigabit (1000Base-T) ethernet port as standard items.*			
Peripheral Ports	2 USB-3 / 1 USB-2 or USB-C HDMI video connector or Display Port video connector	1 USB-2 RGB video connector	IEEE 1394 (FireWire) 3 USB-3 / USB-3.1 eSATA
Office Software	LibreOffice	LibreOffice	Microsoft Office 2007 or newer
◆ *LibreOffice is available for free at http://www.libreoffice.org/ or (preferred) http://www.ninite.com.* ◆ *A trial subscription to Microsoft Office 365 which includes five full installations of Microsoft Office for Windows or OSX may be available to Illinois Tech students with an iit.edu email address at https://products.office.com/en-us/student/office-in-education*			
Anti-Virus Software	including all current updates		Optional on Mac/Linux
◆ *Illinois Tech provides a licensed version of McAfee VirusScan for use by for 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 Illinois Tech networks without installed anti-virus software.*			

Convertible or "2-in-1" systems such as the Microsoft Surface, Dell Inspiron or Dell Latitude, Lenovo Thinkpad Yoga or Lenova Yoga, Acer Aspire, or Toshiba Satellite Radius that comply with these specifications are acceptable. Students should have a flash/thumb drive for lab use; 64GB minimum is recommended. See page 16 above for software available at no cost to ITM students.

Links to special pricing on Dell and Apple computer hardware is available to Illinois Tech students at https://ots.iit.edu/pc-mac/student-pcs-macs.