

School of Communication Personal Computer Recommendations

The School of Communication strongly encourages students to bring a personal computer to campus. Microsoft Office is used extensively throughout the school for assignments.

Public Relations students will also become familiar with and use Adobe Creative Suite software throughout their coursework.

Film, Video & Media Studies students will become familiar with the Apple Final Cut Studio series of products for video editing and DVD production as well as Apple Logic Pro series for audio production.

The choice between a laptop and a desktop is a personal one. The advantages of a laptop include: Mobility, able to access the Internet via the wireless system on campus, allows for collaboration with fellow students on projects, can be used for class presentations.

Minimum system configuration for WMU student's information is found on the WMU Bookstore website: <http://www.wmich.edu/totaltech/minimum-specs.html>

System requirements for Adobe Creative Suite 3 Design Premium are:

Macintosh:

- PowerPC G4, G5 or multicore Intel processor
- Mac OS X v/10.4.11 or 10.5 (Leopard)
- Java Runtime Environment 1.5
- 1 GB RAM
- 6.5 GB of hard-disk space to install all applications
- 1024x768 monitor resolution with 16-bit video card (24-bit screen display recommended)
- DVD-ROM drive
- Internet or phone connection required for product activation
- QuickTime 7.1.2 required for multimedia features

Windows PCs

- Intel Pentium 4 processor
- Windows XP Service Pack 2, or Windows Vista Home Premium
- 1 GB RAM recommended
- 5 GB available hard-disk space
- 1024x768 monitor resolution with 16-bit video card (24-bit screen display recommended)
- DVD-ROM drive
- Internet or phone connection required for product activation
- QuickTime 7.1.2 required or multimedia features

System requirements for Apple Final Cut Studio 2 are:

- Macintosh computer with 1.25GHz or faster PowerPC g4, PowerPC G5, Intel Core Duo, or Intel Xeon processor
- 1GB of RAM
- Display with 1024x768 (or higher) resolution
- AGP Quartz Extreme or PCI Express graphics card
- Mac OS X 10.4.9 or later
- QuickTime 7.1.6 or later
- 4GB of disk space to install all applications
- Additional 42GB to install all optional templates, loops, content, and tutorials
- DVD drive for installation
- Playback of DVD Studio Pro 4 – authored I DVDs requires a PowerPC G5 or Intel Core Duo processor
- Replication of DVD Studio Pro 4-authored I DVDs requires a DLT drive

System requirements for Logic Pro 7 are:

- Macintosh computer with PowerPC G4, PowerPC G5 or Intel Core Duo
- Logic Node applications require PowerPC G5 or Intel Core Duo and Gigabit Ethernet connectivity
- 512MB of RAM
- Mac OS X 10.4.3 or later for PowerPC based systems: Mac OS X 10.4.4 or later for Intel-based systems
- QuickTime 7.0.3 or later
- 8 GB of available hard drive space
- DVD drive for software installation
- Available USB port for XKey (copy protection)
- Low-latency multi-I/O audio hardware and MIDI interface recommended

Computer Products (hardware and software) are sold at educationally discounted process through the WMU Bookstore's TOTALTECH office. More information and current pricing can be found at <http://www.wmich.edu/totaltech> or you can contact them by calling: 269-387-5460.