

# Enhance your learning experience.



## **Personal electronic device guidelines for students**

As a UNSW College student, you will need a personal electronic device to enhance your learning, participate in class and study in your own time. We have prepared this guide to give you an overview of the types of devices you will need to complete your studies with us.

### **Selecting the right device**

#### **Laptop**

You must have a Windows or Apple Mac laptop (NOT an iPad, Android tablet, Mobile phone or Chromebook) that:

- Is less than 4 years old
- Is running at least Windows 10, or macOS Big Sur (version 11.0) in English
- Has Office 365 installed in English
- Has Google Chrome installed in English (you can download this on arrival)
- Has more than 80% battery life
- Meets the specifications in the tables below

#### **Headphones**

- Working headphones with microphone

#### **Additional devices**

**Some courses require additional devices such as a stylus or tablet.**

Diploma of Computer Science, Diploma of Engineering and Diploma of Science students require a laptop with a stylus, or (in addition to their laptop/notebook), a suitable writing tablet with a stylus (e.g. small Wacom, model number CTL-472/K0-CX, which is compatible with PC Windows 10 or newer and Mac OSx11 or newer).

# Laptop Specification Requirements

For students studying Architecture or Design subjects, devices with higher specifications are required to use specialised software. Please refer to minimum guidelines in the tables below. As specifications are subject to change, and for a full list of recommended specifications, Architecture/Design students should also refer to Adobe's [Photoshop](#) and [Premiere Pro](#) system requirements.

Minimum specification requirements*				
	General		Architecture/Design	
	Windows	macOS	Windows	macOS
<b>CPU</b>	1.6GHz or faster	Intel Processor	Intel 6th gen 2GHz, or AMD 1000 series	Intel 6th gen 2GHz, or Apple Silicon
<b>Memory</b>	4GB RAM	4GB RAM	8GB RAM	8GB RAM
<b>Graphics</b>	Graphics hardware acceleration requires DirectX 9 or later	No graphics requirements	DirectX capable 2GB dedicated	Metal Capable 2GB dedicated
<b>Storage</b>	4GB of available disk space	10 GB HFS+ hard disk format	20GB SSD space	20GB SSD space
<b>Display</b>	1280 x 768	1280 x 800	1920 x 1080	1920 x 1080
<b>Operating System</b>	Windows 10 build 14393	MacOS 11	Windows 10 (64bit) version 22H2	macOS Monterey (version 12)

\* iPads, Mobile phones, Android tablets and Chromebooks do not meet student study or examination requirements.

\*\* Gaming laptops are not recommended due to smaller battery capacity (designed to run on mains power)



## Support

Support and maintenance of your own device is your responsibility as a student.

For assistance with passwords for UNSW supplied systems or software please visit: [my.unswcollege.edu.au](https://my.unswcollege.edu.au)

For non-password related IT assistance email [helpdesk@unswcollege.edu.au](mailto:helpdesk@unswcollege.edu.au)

> For more information contact [enquiries@unswcollege.edu.au](mailto:enquiries@unswcollege.edu.au)

## Studying on campus?



### Wi-Fi

UNSW College students can access UNSW Wi-Fi while on campus.



### Size and weight

Devices need to be brought to class daily so the device will need to be a practical weight and size to carry around all day.

**We recommend a maximum weight of 2kg.**



### Battery life

There are limited opportunities to recharge devices during an academic day, so devices will need to have sufficient battery life to use for several hours without recharging.

**An ideal battery life is 10 hours or more.**

# Other Considerations

Learning Activity	Device Suitability		
	Required		Optional <sup>3</sup>
	Laptop with stylus or Laptop with separate tablet <sup>1</sup>	Laptop/Notebook <sup>2</sup>	Tablet
Simple web-based tasks	●	●	●
Short writing tasks	●	●	●
Writing tasks	●	●	●
Handwriting and sketching	●	●	●
Longer writing tasks	●	●	●
Complex or specialised tasks	●	●	●
Online exams	●	●	●

**Key:**

- Recommended for this activity
- Might be suitable for some students and some activities
- Not recommended for this activity

<sup>1</sup>Diploma in Computer Science, Diploma in Engineering and Diploma in Science students require a laptop with a stylus, or (in addition to their laptop/notebook), a suitable writing tablet with a stylus (e.g. small Wacom, model number CTL-472/K0-CX, which is compatible with PC Windows 7 or newer and Mac OSx10.10 or newer).

<sup>2</sup>Required for all other programs (excluding Diploma in Computer Science, Diploma in Engineering and Diploma in Science students).

<sup>3</sup>Tablets and Smart Phone devices are not appropriate for online exams or for any Design Courses.

Function	Minimum Requirements
Device hygiene	The device must have appropriate and up-to-date anti-virus and anti-spyware installed.
English Language settings	Operating systems and software applications must be installed with English language settings.
Headphones	To reduce background noise and improve overall sound quality, we recommend the use of headphones with a microphone for participation in online classes and some exams.
Microphone / camera	When participating in online classes and online exams a working camera and microphone is required.
Operating Systems	The device must use a legitimate licensed operating system.
Password protection / user authentication	The device must support password authentication and automatic locking that must be used at all times.
Software and licensing	<p><b>Office 365</b> UNSW Foundation Studies and Diploma students will get access to the basic suite of Microsoft Office software including Outlook, Word, Excel and PowerPoint, via Office 365. Additional details will be provided in the online IT Induction.</p> <p><b>Specialist software</b> Some courses, such as Design and Engineering, may require the use of specialist software. Details will be included in the Pre-Arrival Information you will receive before orientation.</p> <p><b>Other software</b> You are responsible for obtaining appropriately licensed copies of any applications or operating systems installed on your device/s, unless UNSW College has specifically provided licensed copies for use by students.</p>
Web browser	Any modern web browser – Chrome, Firefox, Edge, Safari etc. Ensure you have updated to the latest version.