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 Widows 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*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>General</th>
<th>Architecture/Design</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CPU</strong></td>
<td><strong>Windows</strong></td>
<td><strong>macOS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.6GHz or faster</td>
<td>Intel Processor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>macOS</strong></td>
<td>Intel Processor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Memory</strong></td>
<td>4GB RAM</td>
<td>8GB RAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>macOS</strong></td>
<td>No graphics requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Graphics</strong></td>
<td>Graphics hardware acceleration</td>
<td>DirectX capable 2GB dedicated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>requires DirectX 9 or later</td>
<td>DirectX capable 2GB dedicated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Storage</strong></td>
<td>4GB of available disk space</td>
<td>10 GB HFS+ hard disk format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Display</strong></td>
<td>1280 x 768</td>
<td>1280 x 800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating System</strong></td>
<td>Windows 10 build 14393</td>
<td>MacOS 11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 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).

### 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

**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 | **Office 365**
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.
Specialist software | 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.
Other software | 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.
Web browser | Any modern web browser – Chrome, Firefox, Edge, Safari etc. Ensure you have updated to the latest version.