

# Computer Recommendations for Landscape Architecture Students

## Note:

Computing is used throughout landscape architectural practice and thus is integral to the landscape architectural curriculum at SUNY-ESF. Landscape Architecture students will find it essential to have a computer available for personal use for the duration of their educational program. Graduate students are required to have a personal computer from the outset of their program, while undergraduate students are required to have one from the Spring of their sophomore year.

It's not possible to provide a set of hardware and software specifications that are guaranteed to meet all student computing needs given the evolving nature of landscape architectural practice and the computing industry in general. However, the Department of Landscape Architecture provides the following set of guidelines for students in anticipation of normal computing needs. These guidelines are reviewed and updated annually.

Students are expected to purchase a notebook style computer, as opposed to desktop models, because notebook computers provide the portability required of our students. Students are free to acquire their computing equipment, software, and support from any source, but are encouraged to consider the services provided by the Syracuse University Bookstore. SUNY-ESF works with Syracuse University to provide students with an opportunity to purchase computing equipment and software at a reasonable price which includes on-campus service and technical support which lasts the duration of most degree programs. (Computers at SU Bookstore [bookstore.syr.edu/computers](http://bookstore.syr.edu/computers)).

## Features Recommended Notebook Specifications

Processor:	Intel Core Duo T2600, or AMD Turion 64 X2 TL-56 or higher
Memory:	1 GB of SDRAM minimum, 2 GB is recommended
Hard Drive:	80 GB minimum, 120 GB or larger is recommended
CD/DVD Drive:	DVD±R/RW recording drive required
External Storage:	2 GB or larger USB flash drive is recommended An external 500 GB (USB 2.0) or larger hard drive is also recommended for backup of the system HD and project files
Display:	15" to 17" LCD (1280x1024 or higher resolution) is required
Graphics Adapter:	An adapter with 128 MB of RAM or more is required
Sound/Speakers:	A sound adapter and internal speakers is recommended
Network:	10/100 Mbps wired Ethernet and 802.11a/b/g wireless Ethernet network adapters or faster are required
Software:	Windows XP Professional (SP2) or above; MS Office Student Edition 2003 (including Excel, Word, and PowerPoint) or newer; Adobe Creative Suite 3 Design Standard (including Acrobat, Illustrator, InDesign, and Photoshop); AutoCAD 2007 Student Edition; Internet browser; antivirus software; other software may be required for certain classes or project work
	SUNY student software may be purchased from <a href="http://ubmicro.buffalo.edu/software.php">ubmicro.buffalo.edu/software.php</a>