

## MINIMUM TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS FOR DISTANCE LEARNING

When participating in distance education courses, it is vital to consider the technology needed in order to have a successful course. We recommend that you meet the technical requirements below when using the learning management system (LMS) of the University.

Note: For additional required hardware or software requirements for your course(s), contact your instructor or refer to the course syllabus for additional information on their requirements.

### Important Technology Considerations

Make certain you have administrative rights on the computer you are using for downloading and installing software applications and extensions.

Public access and company issued computers, especially those that utilize firewalls, may not permit access to certain course materials or systems due to security limitations and may not be a compatible choice for accessing and completing SPS coursework and exams.

The use of satellite and cellular connections may result in slowness or errors (timeouts, access problems) when accessing the classroom and course materials.

### Computer/Network Requirements

A computer (desktop/laptop) or mobile device (smartphone/tablet) that is less than 5 years old will work. NOTE: Chromebooks **are not** recommended and may not be compatible with all third-party tools used in course shells.

A reliable internet connection with a speed of 4Mbps or greater speed. Use of satellite, cellular, or public access internet may result in poor performance. You can test your speed with many utilities, and there are websites, such as <https://www.speedtest.net>.

The university has a number of policies that govern how students, faculty and staff use technology and software while at the institution. [Review them here](#).

### Operating Systems

- PC Users: Windows 7 or higher
- Mac Users: Mavericks 10.9 or later

### Hardware

- RAM: 4 GB (minimum), 8 GB ( *preferred*)
- Hard Drive: 250 GB (minimum)

### Software and Peripherals

#### Software

- [Microsoft Office 365](#) (Free for all UIW community)
- [PDF Reader](#)
- [Apple QuickTime Player](#) OR [Windows Media Player](#)
- Anti-virus software (See the [University Policy](#) on anti-virus and anti-spam protection)

#### Peripherals

- Webcam (optional, but most laptops are equipped with one)

- Headset with a microphone or earbuds with a microphone
- Access to a printer and scanner

#### Desktop Browsers

- **Windows** ( *at least two*)
  - Preferred
    - [Google Chrome](#) (latest version)
    - [Mozilla Firefox](#) (latest version)
  - Optional
    - [Internet Explorer](#)
- **Mac** ( *at least two*)
  - Preferred
    - [Google Chrome](#) (latest version)
    - [Mozilla Firefox](#) (latest version)
  - Optional
    - [Safari](#) (latest version)

Due to the rate at which browsers and software is updated, it is always best to have an alternate browser available.

#### Mobile Browsers

- **iOS** (i.e. iPhone, iPad and iPad Mini)
  - [Chrome](#)
  - [Firefox](#)
  - [Safari](#)
- **Android** (i.e. LG, HTC, Pixel, Samsung, Sony, Moto, Nexus)
  - [Chrome](#)
  - [Firefox](#)
  - [Opera](#)

It is strongly recommended to have *at least one* alternate browser installed on your mobile device.