

UNIVERSITY OF
NORTH TEXAS™
 COLLEGE OF VISUAL ARTS AND DESIGN
 DEPARTMENT OF DESIGN

INTERIOR DESIGN PROGRAM LAPTOP REQUIREMENTS

UNT Interior Design program laptop policy requires every student coming into the interior design program after Entry Portfolio Review to own a laptop that meets the specifications listed below. Depending on the nature of the course, individual faculty may enforce the laptop policy and require use of laptop in class with necessary software.

The UNT Interior Design Program is proud to make use of the most current technology to better prepare students for their professional design career. To support competency, we require a laptop computer for every student coming into our program after the Entry Portfolio Review. The software programs we use demand more computing power, RAM and graphic capabilities (video cards), because the advanced software that we use changes and updates quickly and continuously. In this regard, you should get **a laptop with higher performance that can perform efficiently throughout your student life (sophomore, junior, senior, maybe beyond).**

Required Software:

* Different courses may require additional software to be announced by instructors

REVIT 2017	Free download available from Autodesk website
AutoCAD 2017	Free download available; Not AutoCAD Architecture
SketchUp	Free download available from Google; SketchUp Pro requires a fee
Microsoft Office	including Word, Excel, and PowerPoint
Adobe Creative Suite	Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign are useful in design

Technical Specifications:

Among the design software programs recommended by the program, REVIT software demands higher system requirements. *Obtaining a laptop with the system requirements for REVIT is critical to avoid technical hassles.* Below are laptop requirements for UNT Interior Design students based on the System requirements for REVIT 2017 provided by Autodesk.

Operating System	Microsoft® Windows® 7 SP1 64-bit, or Microsoft® Windows® 8.1 64-bit, or Microsoft® Windows® 10 64-bit * Please note that newer versions of the software used in our program will run only on 64-bit Windows
CPU Type	Multi-Core Intel® Xeon®, or i-Series processor, or AMD® equivalent with SSE2 technology. Highest affordable CPU speed rating recommended.
Memory	16 GB RAM
Video Display	1,920 x 1,200 or higher with true color DPI Display Setting: 150% or less
Video Adapter	DirectX® 11 capable graphics card with Shader Model 5 as recommended by Autodesk.
Hard Drive	Minimum 320 GB
Monitor size	14" minimum and bigger size monitor is recommended
Pointing Device	MS-Mouse or 3Dconnexion® compliant device

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PC (Windows OS) or Mac PC Dual Platform (Mac OS + Windows OS):

Some of the software used in the UNT Interior Design program is incompatible with the Apple Macintosh Operating System (Mac OS) and Mac versions of the software are not available.

ADES3620: Technology in Design course uses AutoCAD and REVIT on Windows OS only, NOT on Mac OS. In other words, your laptop must be capable to operate Windows OS. Since REVIT is incompatible with Mac OS and AutoCAD has long been used on Windows OS in the design industry, operating those programs on Windows OS is encouraged and more beneficial to students. In addition, due to the fact that the interfaces of those programs on Windows OS and Mac OS are significantly different, learning these programs on Mac OS is fully the student's responsibility.

In this regard, we highly recommend a laptop with Windows OS. While we recommend the Windows platform, students may use a Mac PC dual platform that meets the technical specifications listed above. Note: We have noticed that Mac PC dual platform (using either Parallels or Bootcamp) experiences more technical problems and crashes while operating AutoCAD or REVIT. We don't feel the dual platform is a good option for our students for two reasons: It seems less efficient, and more expensive due to the additional demands of disk space and technical support in order to run both the Mac and Windows Operating Systems.

Optional Equipment:

- *External Hard Drive/Flash Drive:* Students should diligently save their work and keep at least 2 backup files in separate locations. In this regard, an external hard drive, an external flash drive, or combination of both is recommended to make backup files and transfer files between computers. You may use a flash drive to turn in assignments and others for backups. The importance of backups cannot be over-emphasized. Please note that lost or damaged files of your work are not considered an acceptable excuse for any missing assignment.
- *External Mouse:* Operating AutoCAD, Revit, and SketchUP using a touchpad is very cumbersome. You are recommended to use a mouse for efficiency.

Free Student Copies of AutoCAD and REVIT:

The Autodesk website provides free software downloads for students. It includes educational versions of AutoCAD, REVIT, etc. Please be aware that CVAD labs are currently running AutoCAD 2017 and Revit 2017 with Windows 7 64-bit operating system. Please check the Interior Design Blog (untintdes.blogspot.com/) occasionally for up-to-date information. In order to get the free software downloads, go to Autodesk website indicated below.

www.autodesk.com/education/free-software/all

The UNT Bookstore may offer software programs to students with a discounted price. Please visit the bookstore website at

<http://unt.bncollege.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/BNCBHomePage?storeId=71237&catalogId=10001&langId=-1>