Fall 2017| Computer Purchase Guide

WHO IS REQUIRED TO HAVE A LAPTOP?

First year students (both undergraduate and graduate) are required to have a laptop in their first semester. These recommendations are meant to serve as a guide to aid in your purchasing decision.

WHERE DO YOU GO FOR HELP?

If you have any questions, call or visit the NinerTech Computer Store (a great on-campus computing resource for UNC Charlotte students) located in the Student Union. NinerTech is your tech-savvy partner for life at UNC Charlotte. They are with you from choosing the right laptop for your major, to servicing malfunctions when you least expect them. Read more about why NinerTech is more than just the tech store. NinerTech carries everything that is recommended in this guide, customizes hardware and software bundles for students, and also offers sales and repair services for Apple, HP, and Dell computers. You may also contact the CoA+A IT Department by email at coaahelp@uncc.edu with any questions you might have.

DECIDING WHICH SYSTEM: MAC OR WINDOWS?

All (except one) of the computing labs in the Storrs building have Apple iMacs and all SoA faculty use Apple computers. Many architecture students have chosen to go with the 15” Apple MacBook Pro because it allows Mac and/or Windows to run on the same laptop. However, the department recommends that you select a computer that works best for you as an individual student. It is highly recommended to try and match or exceed the specs for the machines presented in this guide for either computer you choose. The NinerTech Computer Store can help you find the best solution for the SoA recommended configuration.
15” MacBook Pro with Touch Bar

2.7GHz quad-core Intel Core i7 processor
(Turbo Boost up to 3.6GHz)
16GB Memory
1TB PCIe-based SSD
Radeon Pro 455 with 2GB Memory + Intel HD Graphics
$2,959.00 + Tax

Complete Bundle
Includes above computer + following components:

• Ninercare 4yr protection** | $359
• 1 OEM copy Windows 10 | $129
  (FREE installation at point of purchase)
• StarTech USB-C to USB 3.0 HUB + Ethernet adapter | $41.99
• Adobe Creative Cloud 12mo Subscription | $239.88
• LaCie 1TB Mini USB-C Portable Drive | $119.99
  OR
• G-Drive 1TB Mobile USB-C External Drive | $102.99

Complete Bundle Price:
$3,848.86 + Tax
$3,831.86 + Tax

Minimum Bundle
Includes above computer + following components:

• 1 OEM copy Windows 10 | $129
  (FREE installation at point of purchase)
• StarTech USB-C to USB 3.0 HUB + Ethernet adapter | $41.99
• Adobe Creative Cloud 12mo Subscription | $239.88

Minimum Bundle Price:
$3,369.87 + Tax

*Models and prices are based on availability and are subject to change
** includes a 4-year warranty w/ accidental coverage
Dell 15” Precision 5520*

15.6” UltraSharp UHD (3840x2160) TOUCH Wide View LED-backlit display
2.90 GHz Intel Quad-Core i7
(3.9 GHz Turbo)
16GB Memory
512GB Solid State Hard Drive
Nvidia Quadro M1200M w/ 4GB
Windows 10 Pro 64
$1,849.00 + Tax

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**Complete Bundle Price:**

$2567.87 + Tax w/Lacie
$2550.87 + Tax w/G-Drive

**Minimum Bundle Price:**

$2,088.88 + Tax

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**Minimum Bundle**
Includes above computer + following components:

- Adobe Creative Cloud 12mo Subscription | $239.88

**Complete Bundle**
Includes above computer + following components:

- Ninercare 4yr protection** | $359
- Adobe Creative Cloud 12mo Subscription | $239.88
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  OR
- **G-Drive** 1TB Mobile USB-C External Drive | $102.99

** includes a 4-year warranty w/ accidental coverage
SOFTWARE

**FIRST Year Undergraduate and Graduate** students will need the following software:
- Microsoft Office which is available free of charge for all students. For more information see the [MS Office 365 software download](#) page.
- Adobe Creative Cloud ($239.88/ per year for student subscription).
- 1 OEM copy of Windows for use on Mac for Bootcamp $129 (installed free of charge if purchased with the computer).

**FIRST Year Graduate** students will need the additional software:
- Rhino for Windows ($195 available for purchase download on the Rhino3D website)

In the same way a textbook purchase would be required for a class, additional software purchases may be requested by individual professors or desired by students. By waiting to purchase software until it is needed, you will be able to purchase the most up-to-date version and not carry the burden of upgrading software you as a student may not have used. The university provides certain software free of cost, for students registered for classes in the current term such as MS Office, Antivirus software, and a few more. For more information see the [ITS Services](#) software downloads page.

The following are applications available in the SoA computing labs and may be required by courses:

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<tr>
<th>Adobe Acrobat Pro</th>
<th>Adobe Illustrator</th>
<th>Adobe InDesign</th>
<th>Adobe Photoshop</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apple iWork</td>
<td>ARC GIS</td>
<td>AutoDesk 3DS Max*</td>
<td>AutoDesk AutoCAD*</td>
<td>AutoDesk Revit*</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS Office 365*</td>
<td>SketchUp Pro</td>
<td>Rhino</td>
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<td>Vectorworks*</td>
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*These applications are free to download for UNC Charlotte students.

**RECOMMENDED PORTABLE EXTERNAL HARD DRIVE**

Each Architecture student will be required to purchase a portable external hard drive. These drives will be required for all courses that use the computing labs. It has two important functions:

1) to store files that are used in the computer labs
2) to be used as a back-up drive for your laptop

Manufacturers such as Seagate and LaCie are recommended (minimum size should be 1TB). Find out more at your NinerTech store. Included with a valid UNCC Student email account, the university also provides access to unlimited cloud storage with google drive.
1st Floor, Student Union

**Monday – Friday** 9:00am - 5:00pm
704-687-7880  ninertech@uncc.edu

Contact the store for extended summer hours.

NEW! Order your computer online! Visit the NinerTech website (ninertech.uncc.edu) for more information.

**BE SURE TO ASK ABOUT AVAILABLE PROMOTIONS!**

*Please note that the availability of items in the NinerTech store is subject to change. For more information regarding availability and options, please visit the NinerTech store located on the first floor of the Student Union or website. Representatives in the NinerTech store can help you find a suitable alternative if necessary. Everyone’s situation is unique and choices vary widely. Inquire at the NinerTech about a financing option or regarding the best way for you and your family to acquire your computer.*