BFA GRAPHIC DESIGN / ADVERTISING – TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

MICHAEL GRAVES COLLEGE
ROBERT BUSCH SCHOOL *of* DESIGN

Every design student is required to have a personal laptop that meets the required minimum specifications for their academic program before they begin their coursework.

- The Robert Busch School of Design (RBSD) Graphic Design / Advertising faculty strongly recommends a Macbook Pro as your laptop solution.

- Professional groups and agencies expect you to be proficient in using the MacOS. However, you can use either a MacBook Pro laptop or a Windows-based laptop, but the laptop must meet the listed **system requirements**.

Software Requirements

In addition to the laptop requirements above, students must also have the following access/memberships when they start as a student in the program:

- Adobe Creative Cloud Student Edition: http://www.adobe.com/products/creativecloud/students.edu.html
- Other software and memberships may be required throughout your coursework.

Backup/Peripheral Requirements

- As a student, having a backup method for your work is required. You are responsible for ensuring that your work is regularly backed up to avoid losing it in case of laptop or storage device damage.
- Many students leverage the Adobe Creative Cloud storage to back up their work (dependent on a WiFi connection). However, external solid-state drives may be needed for larger projects. **Once you have selected your laptop, find an external solid-state drive option that works with your computer. We recommend these: https://a.co/d/ftxsaQK, https://a.co/d/aLUVkrA.**
- A three-button mouse is needed for your motion graphics and time-based courses.
- Other peripherals may be required throughout your coursework (Mouse, external keyboard, headphones, etc.)

Recommended

- An Apple iPad Pro, Apple Pencil, and the ProCreate App (for iPad only) is an excellent collection of tools for design ideation and creating assets for various projects.
- Or consider a portable graphics tablet that works with your Adobe apps.
  - Examples:
    - https://www.wacom.com/en-us/products/pen-tablets
    - https://www.xencelabs.com/

System Requirements – MacBook Pro

Built-in Specs	Minimum	Recommended
RAM	16 GB (Unified Memory)	RAM: 32 GB (Unified Memory) or above
Processor	M1 Pro Chip, 12-Core CPU or above	M3 Pro Chip, 12-Core CPU or above
Hard Drive	512GB	1TB or above
GPU	19-Core GPU	30-core GPU
Screen Size	16 inch	
OS Version	MacOS 14 (Sonoma) or the latest version	

System Requirements – Windows

Built-in Specs	Minimum	Recommended
RAM	16 GB	RAM: 32 GB
Processor	AMD Quad-Core or Intel Processor i7 or above	i7 8 Core Processor or above
Hard Drive	500GB	1TB
GPU	2 GB VRAM	4GB VRAM or more
Screen Size	15-inches or more	
OS Version	Operating system: At least Microsoft Windows 10 (64-bit)	

External Storage Requirements

Built-in Specs	Minimum	Recommended
Storage type	External HDD	External SSD
Purchasing link	https://a.co/d/6LKlbNJ https://a.co/d/a3vFj04 https://a.co/d/iBEtDjc	https://a.co/d/ftxsaQK https://a.co/d/aLUVkrA
Capacity	1TB or above	