School of Architecture Laptop Computer Requirements
(As of June 1, 2025)

For PC

	Minimum Specification	Recommended Specification
Processor (CPU)	Multicore Intel® i-Series, Xeon®, AMD® Ryzen, or Apple Silicon (M1/M2)	Intel® i7/i9, AMD® Ryzen 7/9, or Apple Silicon (M1/M2) The highest affordable CPU speed rating recommended.
Operating system	Windows 10, 64-Bit Professional with Windows11 Upgradable, or Windows 11 Professional.	Windows 10, 64-Bit Professional with Windows11 Upgradable, or Windows 11 Professional.
Monitor	15.4" inch Wide Screen XGA+ Display or better	15.6 inch or wider Wide Screen XGA Display or better
Memory (RAM)	16 GB RAM	32 GB RAM or Higher
Hard Drive (SSD)	512 GB Solid State Drive (SSD)	1TB Solid State Drive or Larger capacity
Graphics Card (GPU)	Dedicated GPU with 4 GB VRAM (NVIDIA GeForce GTX 1060, AMD Radeon RX 580)	Dedicated GPU with 8 GB VRAM (NVIDIA GeForce RTX 3060, AMD Radeon RX 6700 XT)
Sound option	Integrated Audio	Integrated Audio or better
Anti-Virus/Security	Anti-Virus, Firewall, Spyware removal S/W	Anti-Virus, Firewall, Spyware removal S/W (Norton or McAfee Suite)
Networking Card	Ethernet LAN & 802.11ax Wi-Fi 6 + Bluetooth 5.0 or higher	Ethernet LAN & 802.11ax Wi-Fi 6 or faster + Bluetooth 5.2 or higher
Warranty and service	1 year Ltd	3 years Ltd or longer
Accidental Damage service	1 year Ltd	3 years Ltd or longer

For Apple Mac

The 14 or 15-inch MacBook Pro with Retina XDR display, Apple M2 Pro with 10 -12 Core CPU, 16-30 Core GPU with 16GB or higher memory, and 1TB of flash storage space are recommended. You will need Apple USB SuperDrive HDMI Cable, and 3Year Apple Care Protection Plan.

☐ **The School of Architecture requires all the students to purchase <u>a laptop as part of our curriculum requirements</u>. You also have the option to purchase a desktop instead of laptop with same specifications as above, but we highly recommend purchasing a laptop. All our school studio tables have secure metal cases for the desktop.**

☐ **Laptop Purchasing Information:**

☐ Go to Laptop Manufacture Web sites such as Dell, HP, MSI, Asus, Acer, Lenovo, Sony, or Apple etc., or electronic retailers such as Amazon or BestBuy, etc., and check their special prices and student discounts. They update the price information every month. When searching for your next computer, remember to focus on specs rather than brand.

☐ Go to the university financial office to get finance for the laptop and software you need.
Contact: 936-261-1000 (Phone) 936-261-1031/1032 (FAX)

School of Architecture Software Requirements
(As of June 1, 2025)

Category	Software Requirements	Price/ License Perpetual (One Year)	Required Department
Desktop publishing	Microsoft Office 365	Free	All Departments
Project Management and Scheduling	MS Project (for Construction Science) Primavera Sure Track	Free Free with Class	Architecture Construction Science Community Development
CAD and Visualization	AutoCAD Architecture 2024 or 2025 Autodesk 3D MAX 2024 or 2025 Autodesk Revit 2024 or 2025 SketchUp Studio 2024 or Higher Rhino 3D 8.0 or Higher Maya 2024 or Higher	Free download for three years of student educational edition * $49.99/mo. ** Free upon request ***	Architecture Construction Science Digital Media Arts DGMA
GIS and Mapping	ArcGIS Pro (for Community Development)	Free download with a class *****	Community Development
Rendering	Enscape 4.0 or Higher Lumion 2024 or Higher	Enscape Education $12.42/mo.******** Lumion Student *********	Architecture
Graphic, Illustration, Publication, and Movie Editing and Design	Adobe Creative Cloud CC 2024 or above (Creative Cloud) including Adobe Photoshop CC or above Adobe Illustrator CC or above Adobe InDesign CC or above Adobe Acrobat DC or above	$19.99/month or $239.88/Yr for the first year and $29.99/ month or $359.88 after that *******	Architecture Digital Media Arts

Notice: Price and promotion may be changed based on the company's new price policy.

Software Purchasing Information:

* AutoCAD, Revit Architecture, etc. are available free to students at Autodesk Student Community (http://students.autodesk.com)
** SketchUp Pro. 3D Modeling Software Pricing – 3D Design Program Cost - SketchUp | SketchUp
*** Rhino 8 Rhino - Downloads
**** McNeel North America (http://www.rhino3d.com/sales/?Region=NA&language=en)
***** ESRI GIS and Mapping Software for ArcView 1-800-447-9778 https://PVAMU.maps.arcgis.com
******* https://www.adobe.com/creativecloud/plans.html?promoid=P3KMQYMW&mv=other
******** Enscape - Real-Time Rendering and Virtual Reality | Chaos
********* Lumion for Students | Unleash Your Creativity | Lumion - Lumion 3D Rendering Software for Architects

Also check the following web site for more discounted price!!
    Academic Superstore (http://www.academicsuperstore.com)
    Student Discount Software (http://www.studentdiscounts.com)
    Studica (http://www.studica.com)

The School of Architecture launches Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) for all the software required in the classes. Each student can get access to the VDI online on their laptop or desktop computers.
https://pvamu.teamdynamix.com/TDClient/57/Helpdesk/KB/ArticleDet?ID=490

You need to discuss with each class instructor the software requirements.
For more information, you can contact:
- Marcus Jacquet at (936) 261-9815 or email: mnjacquet@pvamu.edu
- Stephen Song at (936) 261-9818 or email: yusong@pvamu.edu