

Computer Requirements: Hardware and Software

You will need all of the following items to access and interact with content in your online course

Hardware/Internet Requirements

1. All students must have dedicated access to a computer using **Windows XP/Vista** or **Mac OS X**. Students should make sure to have access to a back-up computer (work, friend or relative's computer) in case of equipment failure.
2. A **high-speed Internet connection** is highly recommended for all courses. We cannot guarantee multimedia components will work on a dial-up connection and cannot distribute hard copies (e.g., cd-rom, dvd-rom) of multimedia items due to copyright constraints.
3. Many courses use audio-video presentations. Students will need **speakers** or **headphones** to listen to presentations.
4. Some courses use voice chat and/or student-narrated presentations. Students in these courses will need to acquire a **usb microphone**. Consult your instructor for more on this topic.

Software Requirements



1. [Firefox Web Browser](#) - In order to simplify compatibility issues, we ask all students to access their courses using Firefox (not Internet Explorer or Safari)



2. [Quicktime Video Player](#) - Many courses include video presentations which are only accessible using Quicktime.



3. [Macromedia Flash Player](#) - Many courses include A/V presentations which require Flash Player.



4. [Adobe Reader](#) - Many courses include .pdf documents which require Adobe Reader.



5. [Java Runtime Environment](#) - Many courses incorporate content which requires JRE.



6. **MS Office** or **Open Office** - All courses require either of these suites of business applications. Open Office is a free alternative to MS Office. You can [get Open Office here](#).