

# Laptop Requirements

## Maine College of Art & Design

### Academic Year 2024–25

#### **ALL BFA STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ARRIVE WITH AN APPROPRIATE LAPTOP**

Any Apple Retina Macbook Pro in good condition will be adequate for most students' curricular needs. The computer should have MacOS Big Sur (Version 11.4) or newer. MacOS Ventura (Version 13.4) is recommended.

Recommended Mac specifications for new computer purchases are as follows:

#### **MAC BASE MODEL (APPROPRIATE FOR MOST STUDENTS - including power users\*)**

- + 13" Macbook Pro or 13.6" macbook Air
- + Processor: Apple M1 or M2 or M3
- + Memory: 16GB
- + Storage Capacity: 256GB SSD or Greater
- + Warranty: AppleCare Protection Plan\*
- + Accessories: USB-C Digital AV Multiport Adapter

#### **MAC POWER USER\***

- + 14" or 16" Macbook Pro w/Retina Display & Touch ID
- + Processor: Apple M1 or M2 or M3
- + Memory: 16GB or Greater
- + Storage Capacity: 512GB SSD or Greater
- + Warranty: AppleCare Protection Plan\*
- + Accessories: USB-C Digital AV Multiport Adapter

\*Please note that the college does not provide repair service for student computers. Therefore, all students are strongly encouraged to get AppleCare.

MECA&D's curriculum primarily uses Apple Computers. Our general use computer labs are exclusively Mac equipped. The Animation & Game Art major uses a blend of Macs and PCs. Students who strongly prefer to use a Windows-based computer can do so. If a student is interested in purchasing a Windows laptop it must have the following **minimum** specifications:

#### **WINDOWS BASE MODEL**

- + Model: Dell Latitude or other Brand/Model equivalent
- + Screen Size: 13" or Greater

- + Processor: 2.5 GHZ i5 or Better
- + Memory: 16GB or Greater
- + Storage Capacity: 512GB SSD
- + Operating System: Windows 10 or 11
- + Warranty: 3 Year Warranty

### **ANIMATION AND GAME ART LAPTOP RECOMMENDATION**

Students pursuing Animation and Game Art should consider a more robust Windows laptop. The software used in Animation and Game Art will not run well without adequate memory and a suitable graphics card. We recommend purchasing a laptop that meets the following **minimum** requirements:

- + Model: Dell Laptop such as XPS or other Brand/Model Equivalent
- + Screen Size: 15" or Greater
- + Processor: 2.6 GHZ i7 or Better
- + Memory: 16GB (32 preferred)
- + Graphics Card: NVIDIA® GeForce® RTX 3050 (or better/equivalent)
- + Storage Capacity: 512GB SSD or Greater
- + Operating System: Windows 10 or 11
- + Warranty: 3 Year Warranty

### **SOFTWARE**

MECA&D provides Adobe Creative Cloud free of charge to all currently enrolled students. This suite can be installed on up to two student-owned computers and remains valid while enrolled at the College. All students receive a Google G-Suite account that serves as the default platform used for email, calendars, documents, presentations, etc. at MECA&D for faculty, staff, and students.

For further questions, please email [helpdesk@meca.edu](mailto:helpdesk@meca.edu) for assistance.

*Last updated May 20, 2024*