Laptop + Software Requirements

Items required before entering the MArch or MS programs

- Laptop (see requirements below)
- 3-button mouse (wireless or wired)
- Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, Illustrator, In Design, Acrobat)
- Rhino 8 installed on your laptop

Laptop computer requirements

All students must have a personal laptop computer equipped with:

- 64-bit Apple, Intel, or AMD multi-core processor (not ARM)
- Apple integrated graphics or a Graphics Processing Unit with at least 4 GB VRAM. A
  - dedicated NVIDIA or AMD card with OpenGL 4.1 capability or higher is highly recommended
- 8 GB of RAM (16 GB or more recommended)
- At least 256 GB of storage (Hard Drive or Solid State)
- A 3-year warranty
- Microsoft Windows 10 64-bit or later -or- Apple Mac OS X 12.4 or later

Mac and Windows computers are both acceptable. Students and faculty in the school use both, though some students find that software is more compatible/readily available for Windows computers.

Software Requirements

Adobe Creative Suite (available for purchase as a Creative Cloud subscription) includes the required programs Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, and Acrobat Professional. Creative Cloud is available for students through the UIC Webstore: https://webstore.illinois.edu/shop. Education-priced copies are also available from Adobe: https://www.adobe.com/creativecloud/buy/students.html

AutoCAD and other Autodesk products are available for students at
https://www.autodesk.com/education/students

Rhino 8 for Mac and Windows is available for a discounted price through the UIC Bookstore: https://www.bkstr.com/uicbookstore. Education-priced copies can also be ordered from McNeel: https://www.rhino3d.com/en/sales/north-america/United_States/

Word-processing, spreadsheet, and presentation software, such as Microsoft Office 365 or Apple iWork. Office 365 is available for free to UIC students from the UIC Webstore: https://webstore.illinois.edu/shop

Additional software, such as Enscape, V-Ray, SketchUp, Maya, etc., may be used in the program. It is not necessary to have these programs before the start of classes.