Architecture
at Chicago

Laptop + Software Requirements

Items required by the start of pre-fall workshop
- Laptop (please see requirements below)
- 3-button mouse (wireless or wired are both acceptable)
- Adobe Suite, Rhino 3D, and AutoCAD installed on your laptop

Laptop computer requirements
All students must have a personal laptop computer equipped with:
- 64-bit Intel® or AMD® multi-core processor with SSE4.2 instruction set
- A dedicated NVIDIA or AMD Graphics Processing Unit with at least 4GB GDDR5 Graphics Memory
- 8 GB of RAM (16 GB or more recommended)
- At least 256GB of Storage (Hard Drive or Solid State/Flash)
- A 3-year warranty
- Microsoft® Windows® 10 (64-bit only) version 1809 or higher recommended
- Apple® Mac OS® X 10.14 or higher recommended
- Webcam

Students may decide whether to use a Mac or Windows computer. Students and faculty in the school use both, though some students find that some 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. Until August 1, 2021, Creative Cloud is available for free to students through the [UIC Webstore](). After August 1, students will be required to pay $80 for Creative Cloud through UIC. Education-priced copies are also available from [Adobe](), [JourneyEd.com,]() and other sources.

Word-processing, spreadsheet, presentation software such as Office 365 and Apple iWork. Office 365 is available for free to students from the [UIC Webstore]().

AutoCAD and other Autodesk products are available for download as educational versions with a student account at [http://students.autodesk.com]().

Rhino 3D for Mac and Windows is available for a discounted price through the [UIC Bookstore]().

Additional software will likely be used throughout your time in the program. This may include Enscape, V-Ray, SketchUp, Maya, etc.