

City and Regional Planning Department

Computer Requirements

All undergraduate and graduate students entering City and Regional Planning programs must have a notebook computer. The City and Regional Planning Department facilities run on both Windows and Macintosh platforms. If you are very experienced on a platform, it is generally recommended that you stay on that platform. All required software is available for both platforms. When making your choice consider that both Mac and Windows operating systems can be run simultaneously on the new Intel based Macs.

The City and Regional Planning Department expects that all entering students already have basic computing knowledge and skills. These include facility in the use of word-processing and spreadsheet applications and the ability to use the Internet and WWW for email and browsing purposes.

About Email

Cal Poly provides a free email account to every student. You are expected to use this account, even if you also maintain an off-campus account. Email will be used by faculty, the CRP Department and Cal Poly as an official means of communicating with you. Make it a habit to check your account regularly, or have it forwarded to your off-campus account.

Once You Get Your Computer

You can connect to Mustang Wireless through your web browser using your Cal Poly username and password.

Go to sketchup.google.com and download the free version. Follow instructions to install it on your computer.

Go to students.autodesk.com and register as a student using your Cal Poly email address. Then download AutoCAD 2011 (free for students), and follow instructions to install it on your computer.

Stop by Cal Poly's El Corral Bookstore to learn about the latest student pricing for Adobe Creative Suite and Microsoft Office Suite.

Notebook Specifications

The notebook computer must meet or exceed the following specifications:

- 4GB RAM
- 200GB Internal Hard Drive
- Wireless Capable
- OSX (Macintosh), Windows 7 (PC)
- MacBook Pro or Equivalent Dell (13" or 15" recommended)

Peripherals

- Mouse
- USB Flash Drive (min. 2GB recommended)
- Color Inkjet Printer (recommended only)
- Scanner (recommended only)

Software Specifications

Current version of the following software:

- SketchUp (available free through sketchup.google.com)
- AutoCAD 2011 (Macintosh and Windows student versions available free through students.autodesk.com)
- Adobe Creative Suite (InDesign, Photoshop, Illustrator, Acrobat): Student pricing available from El Corral Bookstore
- Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, Powerpoint): Student pricing available from El Corral Bookstore
- Anti-virus and Disk Repair (Required for Windows)

Educational Pricing

Call or visit Cal Poly's El Corral Bookstore (805-756-5311) for educational pricing on both software and hardware.

Prices are also published on the bookstore web site: <http://www.elcorralbookstore.com/>

Note for Undergraduate Freshmen and Transfer Students

Undergraduate freshmen and transfer students will not need the design software (SketchUp, AutoCAD and Adobe Creative Suite) until they start CRP 201.

Note for Graduate Students

Graduate students will not need the design software (SketchUp, AutoCAD and Adobe Creative Suite) until they start CRP 512.