

Preparation of Personal Computers for the Enrolled Students at J. F. Oberlin University

To All Enrolled Students

J. F. Oberlin University mainly conducts classes in person. However, some courses may be held online. For attending online classes on campus, doing assignments, or other study-related purposes, students are encouraged to bring their own laptops (hereafter referred to as “laptop or similar device”).

To ensure smooth participation in academic activities, we request all enrolled students to prepare laptops or similar devices that meet the following specifications. Please carefully read this document and prepare accordingly.

Additionally, please confirm any specific requirements and notes for your respective faculty listed the table below.

Required Specifications

Specification	Windows Version	Macintosh Version
Operating System (OS)	64-bit Windows 11 Home or Pro	macOS Sequoia (Version 15) or later
Processor (CPU)	Recommended: Intel Core i5 (12th Gen or later) AMD Ryzen 5 (4thGen or later). Acceptable: Intel Core i3 (12th Gen or later) AMD Ryzen 3 (4th Gen or later). Snapdragon X Elite/Plus	Equipped with Apple Silicon
Memory (RAM)	16 GB or more	Same as left
Storage	SSD 240GB or more (SSD is faster, more durable, and energy-efficient compared to HDD or eMMC.)	Same as left
Display	Resolution of 1920 × 1080 or higher	Same as left
Network	Wireless LAN (Wi-Fi) capable	Same as left
Portability	Lightweight and easy to carry (reference: under 1.5 kg)	Same as left

Office software	Microsoft 365 is provided free of charge to enrolled students; individual purchases of “Office” are not required).	Same as left
Security software	Microsoft Defender is included by default in Windows, but we recommend installing security software capable of automatic updates.	macOS includes basic security features, but we recommend installing security software capable of automatic updates.
Front Camera	If not built-in, a USB webcam is required.	Same as left
Audio Input/Output	Earphones or a headset with a microphone (required for attending online classes on campus).	Same as left

Faculty–Specific Notes

Liberal Arts (LA) and Health and Welfare (HW)

- In these faculties, all students are required to take the course “Computer Literacy I,” which uses Windows. The PC classrooms on the Machida Campus generally use Windows due to its popularity in professional settings. Please ensure your device meets the Windows specifications listed above if you purchase a new PC. Failure to meet these specifications may result in the following limitations:
 1. Difficulty in applying textbook content and instructor guidance
 2. Inability to complete assignments and tests effectively
 3. Troubles in attending online classes
 4. Limited support from faculty and staff regarding coursework
- In the past, there have been cases in students experienced with macOS have successfully completed the course “Computer Literacy I” using their Mac devices. If you already have a Mac, please use it as a reference based on your own abilities.
- The course “Computer Literacy I” is designed with assignments requiring study outside class hours. Students are advised to complete their homework during their free time on campus before you forget what you learned in a class. Even if you do not take online classes, you must have at least one laptop or similar device.

Performing and Visual Arts (PVA)

- Students in the Faculty of Arts and Culture are required to prepare a device that meets the specifications listed in the table below (Applicable to both Windows and Macintosh versions). Students in this faculty will be provided with free access to "Adobe CC" and therefore do not need to purchase it individually. "Adobe CC" is a service package mainly used in the Visual Arts specialization, including software like "Illustrator" (graphic design), "Photoshop" (image editing and processing), and "Premiere Pro" (video editing).

Specification	Macintosh Version	Windows Version
Operating System (OS)	macOS Tahoe (26) or later	64-bit Windows 11 Home or Pro (latest updates applied)
Processor (CPU)	Apple M3 or M4 (MacBook Air), M5 (MacBook Pro)	Intel Core Ultra 7 or Ultra 9 (Lunar Lake/Series 2 or later), Intel Core i7 (13th Gen or later), AMD Ryzen 7 or Ryzen 9 (8000/9000 Series or later)
Memory (RAM)	16GB Unified Memory or more (Recommended: 32GB)	16GB or more (Recommended: 32GB)
Storage	512GB or more (Recommended: 1TB)	Same as left
GPU	Integrated GPU: Apple M3 or M4 (MacBook Air), M5 (MacBook Pro)	NVIDIA GeForce RTX 5060 or higher (for creators), NVIDIA Quadro (RTX Ada Generation)
Display	Liquid Retina XDR display 13–16 inches	–Screen size: 15–17 inches (high visibility) –Resolution: 4K UHD (3840 x 2160) or QHD (2560 x 1440) –Color gamut: Supports 100% sRGB or Adobe RGB (for accurate color representation)
Software	Security software capable of automatic updates for virus definitions, etc. (<i>Adobe CC and Microsoft 365 are provided free of charge to Faculty of Arts and Culture students during their enrollment; individual purchases are not required.</i>)	Same as left
Front Camera	(For online use) A camera capable of broadcasting student images via Zoom (If not built into the PC, please prepare a USB-connected webcam.)	Same as left

Audio Input/Output	(For online use) Please prepare earphones with a microphone or a headset (required for attending online classes on campus. Using the PC's built-in microphone or speakers is not suitable.)	Same as left
Notes	In the Faculty of Arts and Culture, the compulsory subject "Information Literacy I" is taught using Macs installed in classrooms. When using a Windows PC for studying outside of class hours for assignments, please note that there are differences in operational methods. However, you can obtain credits for this subject on a Windows PC, so purchasing a Mac is not mandatory. For other specialized fields, please refer to the notes for each specialization below.	

To Students in the Visual Arts Program:

- From the second year onward, there will be more assignments that require to use a PC. If you are considering purchasing a laptop for assignments related to the design or film/video fields, please refer to the specifications provided above. It is also possible to create works using the Mac and Windows computers in the PC rooms.

To Students in the Music Program:

- For courses related to computer music and acoustics offered in the Music Program, students will use the Mac computers installed in the studios. If you are planning to specialize in these fields and are purchasing a new PC, we recommend to buy a Mac. A model with an Apple M3 or higher CPU and at least 16GB of memory is recommended. If you plan to work on projects that requires complex data processing, please consider purchasing a laptop with even higher specifications.

To Students in the Theater and Dance Program:

- From the second year onward, students aiming to be a staff or related roles who plan to use Vectorworks for creating art and lighting diagrams or performing 3D simulations are advised to follow the specifications provided above.

Business Management (BM)

- Detailed information on the preparation of laptops for academic purposes is provided separately. Please refer to the notice, "Information for Students Admitted to the Faculty of Business Management."

Global Communication (GC)

- It is mandatory for students to bring a PC to use Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and web browsers, etc., in the compulsory subject “Information Literacy” and the elective subjects “Data Science A” and “Data Science B.”

We recommend using a Windows PC for these lectures. This is because Windows is primarily utilized in the PC classrooms on the Machida Campus, and Windows has a high usage rate in society as well. If you are preparing a new PC, please ensure that your PC satisfies the specifications presented in the [Windows Version] section on the first page. The structure of Microsoft 365 is fundamentally the same in the Mac version, so we do not restrict the use of Macs. However, lecturers will primarily use Windows PCs for explanations. If you use a Mac, you should be familiar with Mac OS operations and understand the differences of operations between Windows OS and Mac OS by yourself. Furthermore, please use a laptop with a Mac OS version and specifications that allow the latest version of Microsoft 365 to run without any issues.

Please note, Excel for the web (which can be used in a browser), the Android version, and the iOS version of Excel have functional limitations, so these devices and software do not comply with the required specifications.

If you are unable to bring the recommended PC, or if you use a device or software that does not comply with the specifications, you may not be able to use certain features of Microsoft 365. In such cases, problems may arise, such as being unable to practice the textbook content or follow instructor guidance in lectures, being unable to complete exercises and assignments, and being unable to receive support from faculty and staff (questions regarding lecture content or individual instruction). Similar problems will also occur during online lectures.

Aviation (Aviation)

- The “Information Literacy” course uses Windows, and all students are expected to comply with Windows specifications due to its popularity in professional settings. Please ensure your device meets the Windows specifications listed first if you purchase a new PC. Failure to meet these specifications may result in the following limitations:
 1. Difficulty in applying textbook content and instructor guidance
 2. Inability to complete assignments and tests effectively
 3. Limited support from faculty and staff regarding coursework

- In the past, there have been cases in students experienced with macOS have successfully completed the course "Computer Literacy I" using their Mac devices. If you already have a Mac PC, please use it as a reference based on your own abilities.
- The course "Computer Literacy I" is designed with assignments requiring study outside class hours. Students are advised to complete their homework during your free time on campus before you forget what you learned in a class. There are no PC rooms that can be used by large number of people at Tama Campus. Even if you do not take online classes, you must have at least one laptop or similar device.
- Students in the Flight Operations Course will need an iPad starting in the second fall semester. More details will be provided after enrollment.

Faculty of Education and Social Transformation (EST)

- We will provide students with laptops with the specifications required for classes, so no individual purchase is required.

Before attending online classes, please prepare a stable internet environment at your home or where you live alone.

Contact Information:

- LA, Kempuku (HW), GC Faculties: Machida Campus (registr@obirin.ac.jp)
- BM Faculty: Shinjuku Campus (sjk_info@obirin.ac.jp)
- PVA Faculty: Tokyo Hinatayama Campus (pva-info@obirin.ac.jp)
- Aviation Faculty: Tama Campus (avi@obirin.ac.jp)
- Kyotan(EST) Faculty: Sagamihara Campus (est_staff@obirin.ac.jp)