NIC Fine Art Media Art Studios
TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Do I need my own computer?

Many of our students find it valuable to have their own computer as it provides the most flexibility in terms of working environment. However, the NIC Comox Valley campus houses two computer labs in Raven 107 and 212, equipped with iMac workstations, all required program software and a scanner and printer that both in-person (CVS) and online (DLU) registered students are permitted to access.

MAC Lab Hours of Operation:
Monday - Thursday: 8:30am -
9:00pm Friday: 8:30am - 3:30pm
Saturday: 10:00 - 4:00
Sunday: no access

Should I get a PC or a Mac?

Typically, a Mac is considered industry standard. That said, you will not be at a disadvantage if you choose a Windows system instead. They both have strengths and weaknesses, you can read about the pros and cons of each here.

What are the minimum specifications?

	WINDOWS	MAC
Processor	x86_64 CPU architecture; 2nd generation Intel Core or newer, or AMD CPU	ARM-based chips, or 2nd generation Intel Core with 64-bit support
Operating System	64-bit Microsoft® Windows® 8/10	MacOS® 10.14 (Mojave) or higher
RAM	8 GB RAM (16 GB or more recommended)	8 GB RAM (16 GB or more recommended)
Graphics Card	GPU with DirectX 12 support; 2 GB+ of GPU memory	GPU with Metal support; 2 GB+ of GPU memory
Monitor Resolution	1280 x 800 display at 100% UI scaling (1920X 1080 recommended)	1280 x 800 display at 100% UI scaling (1920X 1080 recommended)
Hard Disk Space	8 GB available hard-disk space	8 GB available hard-disk space

Should I get a laptop or a desktop?

Either will work. Laptops provide mobility but have smaller screens. Desktops have larger screens but lack mobility. If you will be working on the iMacs in the lab while on campus and on your own computer at home, a desktop is probably the best option. If you want to work outside of the labs on campus, in a cafe, at home on the couch, then a laptop is the right choice. You can always buy a second monitor to make up for the limited screen size.

Course Specific Requirements

The following page outlines the specific equipment required for the media art studios FIN 200, 201 and 247.

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Students enrolled in the CVS face-to-face section have access to the NIC Fine Art audio-visual equipment loan system. Students enrolled in DLU digital asynchronous section will need to supply their own audio-visual equipment - see lists below for course equipment specifics.

FIN 200 Video + Sound 1 and FIN 201 Video + Sound 2
Technical Requirements

1. a device that can capture 1080p video footage (i.e. DLSR or mirrorless camera, or mobile device)
2. tripod for your video capture device
3. headphones
4. a device that can capture good sound quality (i.e. mobile phone with sound recording app, or Zoom recorder HN1 or HN4)
5. education subscription to Adobe Creative Cloud

FIN 247 Digital Photography
Technical Requirements

1. a digital camera with the capability to adjust shutter speed, aperture and ISO (ie. Digital SLR or Mirrorless camera)
2. a camera tripod
3. camera storage cards (32-64 gb min.) for image capture
4. back up storage for files (USB memory stick or external hard drive or virtual storage;
5. education subscription to Adobe Creative Cloud