

RIT School of Print Media **RECOMMENDED MATERIALS FOR NEW MEDIA PUBLISHING STUDENTS**

Students in both undergraduate programs in the School of Print Media will be entering technical fields where digital imaging technology is central. Below you will find listed the recommended (optional) equipment that you will need to consider purchasing to be fully prepared for your work at RIT.

We suggest shopping online and at your local retailers as well as comparing prices with the RIT Computer and Photography Store located in the Student Alumni Union at (585) 475-2211. You will find that through RIT academic discounts, we can offer some of the lowest prices on specific cameras, computers, software and media.

SUGGESTED SUPPLIES FOR FALL 2009:

The following supplies are needed for many classes:

- Spindle of writable CDs (700 MB) and/or DVD-Rs (4.7 GB). We recommend Sony, Fuji, Kodak, or Apple.
- Protective sleeves/cases for DVDs and CDs for storage and handing in assignments.
- A portable hard drive and/or a “thumb” drive (see recommendations below).
- Notebooks and 3-ring binders for notes and materials.
- Linen Tester or loupe (5x magnification or higher).

Please Note: In addition to these supplies, there will be additional books and supplies required each quarter by individual instructors for specific classes. **These additional costs may add up to \$300.00 per quarter.**

RECOMMENDED COMPUTER EQUIPMENT FOR FALL 2008:

The following items are recommended only. You are encouraged to select those items that are most relevant to your interests and fit within your budgetary limitations. Further, the prices/specifications listed are current as of April 2008. It is likely that newer, faster equipment is available by the time you go to make your purchase, so we offer these strictly as recommendations to help guide you through your purchase.

Computer

Although our labs are fully equipped with Macintosh G5's and the latest iMacs, a personal workstation (Mac or PC with appropriate software) will allow you to complete much of the necessary course work at home. The specific system you choose will ultimately be based on your budgetary limitations, need for portability, need for expandability, and career focus. If you are interested in purchasing a computer system, we suggest that you use the following information as your guide. You are by no means limited to these configurations; however, they are a good benchmark of the minimum computing power you will need.

With all equipment, it is recommended to purchase as much RAM and storage (hard drive space) as your budget will allow. Today's applications are memory intensive, so it is better to have more memory to work with. Likewise, today's applications have a myriad of palettes that take up a lot of space on a monitor, so the larger monitor you can afford, the better.

Please check with the RIT Computer and Photography Store as they frequently offer “combo” deals on computers, printers, etc. that will not be available until summer or the beginning of fall quarter. This is also often the best time to purchase the latest software.

APPLE COMPUTERS

There are two ways to purchase Apple products from RIT Computer and Photography Store: 1) in person; 2) by phone (585) 475-2211.

• iMac (All-in-one best value)

2.4Ghz Intel Core 2 Duo

20-inch flat LCD display

4 GB SDRAM memory (2x2GB chips)

320 GB Hard Drive

Dual-layer SuperDrive 8x (DVD+R, DL/DVD±RW, CD-RW)

AirPort Extreme Card built-in

AppleCare Protection plan

Estimated Price: \$1968.00*

Comparable 24" model also available starting at \$2,268.00

• **MacBook (Solid portable,)**

2.4 GHz Intel Core 2 Duo
13" display
4 GB memory (2x4GB chips)
250 GB Serial ATA drive
Dual-Layer SuperDrive 8x (DVD+R, DL/DVD±RW, CD-RW)
AirPort Extreme Card & Bluetooth included
AppleCare Protection plan
Modem not included (add \$44.00)
Also available in Black (add \$120, comparably spec'd)
Estimated Price: \$1832.00 *

• **MacBook Pro (Best portable, but more expensive)**

2.5 GHz Intel Core 2 Duo
15" display
4 GB memory (2x2GB chips)
250GB Serial ATA drive
Dual-Layer SuperDrive 8x (DVD+R, DL/DVD±RW, CD-RW)
AirPort Extreme Card & Bluetooth included
AppleCare Protection plan
Modem not included (add \$44.00)
Estimated Price: \$2659.00 *

• **Mac Pro G5 (Best desktop for both power and expandability) CPU only, Display sold separately**

Two 2.8 GHz Quad-Core Intel Xeon (8-core)
4GB Ram (2x 2GB chips)
500GB 7200-rpm Serial ATA drive
NVIDIA GeForce 8800 GT 512MB (Two Dual-link DVI)
Dual-Layer SuperDrive 16x (DVD+R, DL/DVD±RW, CD-RW)
Bluetooth 2.0+EDR and Airport Extreme Card
AppleCare Protection plan
Modem not included (add \$44.00)
Estimated Price: \$3518.00*

DISPLAY RECOMMENDATIONS

LCDs (Flat Panel Displays)

Apple Cinema Display (20") \$549.00*
Apple Cinema Display (23") \$799.00*
Apple Cinema Display (30") \$1599.00*

Alternate brand CRT or LCD of your choice if you do not choose an Apple product. Make sure that it can connect to the computer you've chosen.

APPLECARE (HIGHLY Suggested for any Apple Product)

Price: \$99 for Mac Minis, \$119 for iMacs, \$199 for desktops, \$189 for Macbooks, \$239 for portables

The AppleCare Protection Plan extends your built-in hardware service and 90-day telephone support to three full years from the purchase date of your new Apple product. This comprehensive plan includes telephone support, Apple-certified repairs, web-based support resources, and powerful diagnostic tools — all for one economical price. It is **HIGHLY** recommended for laptops/portables. The price is included in the specifications listed above.

Security

Invest in a laptop lock (\$40.00) for your portables. These are available at the Computer and Photography Store or at most computer stores. **NEVER leave your laptop unsecured.**

Note: You can also order minimum RAM on your drive and purchase memory from a third-party vendor at considerable discount.

PC SYSTEMS

We recommend a Dell (www.dell.com) with the following minimum specifications. There is an educational pricing site available through dell.com. We are also recommending that you purchase Windows XP Professional instead of Vista as the operating system at this point in time.

Desktop PC – Example: Dell Inspiron 530

Intel® Core™2 Duo Processor E6550
4GB Dual Channel DDR2 SDRAM at 667MHz- 4DIMMs
320GB Serial ATA Hard Drive (7200RPM) w/DataBurst Cache™
16x DVD+/-RW Drive (also burns CDs)
22 inch E228WFP Widescreen Digital Flat Panel
Estimated Price: \$1,357.00*

Notebooks – Example: Inspiron E1520 laptop

Intel® Core 2 Duo Processor T7250 (2.0Ghz)
Winows XP Professional OS
4GB Shared Dual Channel DDR2 at 667MHZ
320GB 5400 RPM SATA Hard Drive
CD/DVD Burner (DVD+/-RW)
Intel Next-Gen Wireless-N Mini-card
Dell-Care Plus program
Estimated Price: Starting around \$1,771* for options listed above. Additional options will increase the price.

We also highly recommend purchasing the 3-year warranty on parts and service (listed as Dell-Care Plus program above)

You may also want to check out BOXX at www.boxxtech.com for alternative PC solutions. They are a bit more expensive than Dell, but we have installed them with great success and reliability in many of our PC labs.

***Note:** All prices are subject to change. Contact the RIT Computer and Photography Store or go to www.store.apple.com or www.dell.com for the latest prices. **Be sure to reference the student (education) pricing.**

INK JET PRINTERS

An ink jet printer will suffice for most output from your personal workstation. Depending on your budget and page size requirements, we recommend you consider the following from Epson (www.epson.com) and HP (www.hp.com):

Printers up to 8.5”x11” (prices range from \$79 - \$200*):

Examples: Epson Stylus Photo R280, R380

Printers up to 13”x44” (prices range from \$388 - \$845*):

Examples: Epson Stylus Photo 1400, Epson Stylus Photo R1800, Epson Stylus Photo R2400

DIGITAL MEDIA STORAGE

The School of Print Media no longer advocates or supports the use of ZIP disks in the labs. Remotely accessible server storage is available for temporarily moving files. CD-RWs and USB “Thumb” drives can be used for smaller portable needs. However, we strongly recommend you consider a portable Firewire/USB hard drive for larger project work and for data backup, and more efficient portability between labs and other work environments. We also recommend that you keep backups of your files (projects, etc.) in AT LEAST 2-3 places and save often! Currently, Firewire/USB 2.0 drives designed for stationary use can store over 500 GB but, for maximum portability, we recommend the following portable or semi-portable models:

USB Thumb Drives: (These will go by such names as “Jump”, “Flash,” or “USB” drives)

Prices range from \$20 – \$155 depending on size; they can store up to 2 GB or more.

External/Portable Harddrives

LaCie makes portable drives in various shapes and sizes to suit your needs. The prices range from \$109.95 and up. Any external drive you purchase should connect either via Firewire or USB 2.0. As always, we recommend getting the biggest drive you can afford, it is very easy to create a lot of data these days!

You may also wish to check out similar offerings from G-Tech at www.g-technology.com.

Apple iPod

The iPod can be used as a portable hard drive as well as an MP3 player. They come in a variety of sizes and styles, with sizes from 2GB to 80 GB. The price range is \$149.00 to \$499.00.

Compact Flash Media

This is a standard format for the digital camera technologies available to you through the labs. Prices start at \$30 and range up to over \$100. Most SPM cameras are available for checkout from the equipment cage with a 1GB card; however, many students elect to purchase a card of their own to use. These cards work in a variety of equipment.

SOFTWARE

Our lab workstations have a wide array of software applications that you will use for your coursework at RIT. For use on your own workstation, we strongly recommend at a minimum the Adobe Creative Suite3: Design Premium and the Microsoft Office Suite for all students. For students with a greater interest in primarily web-based work, the Adobe Creative Suite 3: Web Premium is a great deal, and if you are interested in New Media/Cross-Media work, the Adobe Creative Suite 3: Master Collection contains just about anything you might need. In addition, for those students with an interest in print media, QuarkXPress remains the industry standard for page layout.

Purchasing your software through RIT is the most efficient way to get the academic discount (with the exception of QuarkXPress – you must visit www.quark.com if you wish to purchase this software).

Please also check www.gotrc.com for other great deals on these and other academic-priced software.

Adobe Creative Suite 3: Design Premium – Academic*

Adobe Photoshop CS3 Extended, Illustrator CS3, InDesign CS3, Dreamweaver CS3, Acrobat 8.0 Professional, Flash CS3 Professional, plus a variety of additional tools.

Academic price: \$599*

Adobe Creative Suite 3: Web Premium – Academic*

Adobe Photoshop CS3 Extended, Illustrator CS3, Dreamweaver CS3, Acrobat 8.0 Professional, Flash CS3 Professional, Contribute CS3, Fireworks CS3, plus a variety of additional tools.

Academic price: \$499*

Adobe Creative Suite 3: Master Collection – Academic*

Adobe Photoshop CS3 Extended, Illustrator CS3, InDesign CS3, Dreamweaver CS3, Acrobat 8.0 Professional, Flash CS3 Professional, Contribute CS3, Fireworks CS3, After Effect CS3 Professional, Premiere Pro CS3, Soundbooth CS3, Encore CS3, plus a variety of additional tools.

Academic price: \$999*

Microsoft Office XP or Microsoft Office 2004 (Mac)*

Includes MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint and either Outlook (XP) or Entourage (Mac)

Academic price: \$59 - \$75* this academic pricing is ONLY available at Campus Connections.

QuarkXPress 7.3

Academic price: \$199*

See www.quark.com for details on purchasing this software. It is also available at the RIT Computer and Photography Store, and there may be a reduced price in the Fall quarter.

NOTE: Check for deals offered through RIT. Great discounts are frequently available closer to fall quarter. The Master Collection has been available for as low as \$500 through the bookstore.

*Academic prices are also available for the individual components of each software bundle.

If you would like suggestions about additional equipment such as scanners and digital cameras, please contact Erich Lehman at 585-475-2766 or e-mail at ELehman@mail.rit.edu.