Technology Requirements

Computer / Technology Skill Requirements

1. You will need regular access to a computer with an Internet connection. You must be able to install software on this computer; this may limit the ability to use a public library computer or a computer at your place of work. The minimum computer requirements for the virtual classroom are:

- Processor (CPU), 1 GHz or faster
- Windows Vista/7, or Mac Snow Leopard 10.6 (Note: Lion and Mountain Lion have some incompatibilities with Blackboard)
- Firefox 12 or above
- 512 MB of Ram minimum, 2GB recommended
- CD or DVD drive
- Minimum 56 kbps V.92 (DSL or Cable preferred; highly recommended)
- Video display capable of high color 16 bit display
- A sound card and speakers.
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.
- Some classes may have specific class requirements for additional software. These requirements will be listed on the course offerings page.

Most home computers purchased within the last 3-years meet or surpass these requirements.

2. Your computer must have a reliable and reasonably fast Internet connection. Access to a faster connection like a cable modem or DSL connection is preferable and will enhance your experience when viewing online video content.

3. Your Web browser should be Firefox 12 or Respondus Lock Down Browser. Other versions of browser may work, but not optimally.

4. You must have an Ohio University e-mail account and use it regularly. You will be granted access to your email account when you activate you Ohio ID.

5. You may need some additional plugins for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you have the correct versions of the plugins by running the Blackboard Browser Checker, available from [http://www.ohio.edu/blackboard/browserchecker](http://www.ohio.edu/blackboard/browserchecker)

6. At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2007 or higher. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff at Ohio University. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software.

If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the Technology Depot to see about purchasing a student copy.

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