

**August 8, 2011**

## **Fall 2011, Part-Time IMC Hardware and Software Information**

Congratulations on your acceptance to the Medill IMC program! It is a particularly exciting time to be joining us, because of the dynamic changes in the marketing and communications landscape.

To be the most prepared to succeed in the program; you'll need some hardware and software. If you already have a laptop that meets the minimum specifications needed to efficiently operate the required software, you'll be able to buy just the software.

### **The required hardware and software includes:**

- A laptop computer that meets the minimum specifications
- Microsoft Office Professional Plus 2010 Suite (Student Select) for Windows or Microsoft Office 2011 (Student Select) for Mac
- IBM SPSS Statistics Standard GradPack – Latest version (6 or 12 month licenses available)
- Symantec Endpoint Protection (Anti-virus software) for Windows or Mac  
(Before installing the NU Symantec Anti-Virus client, be sure to uninstall any existing anti-virus application(s) you have on your computer.)

### **Minimum recommended laptop hardware specifications:**

#### **Windows**

- Windows 7 Professional 64-bit OS
- 14" wide aspect ratio LCD or larger, with a screen resolution of 1280 x 900 or better.
- Intel Core i7 Processor
- 500 GB HD, SATA, 7200 RPM
- 8 GB of RAM
- Integrated wireless card, 802.11a/g/n
- 10/100/1000 Gigabit Ethernet
- Video card with at least 512 MB of dedicated RAM
- DVD+/- RW optical drive
- At least 3 USB ports

#### **Mac**

- Operating System: Mac OS X (10.6 or later Snow Leopard or Lion)
- 15" Display MacBook Pro with with a screen resolution of 1280 x 900 or better.
- Intel Core i7 Processor
- 500 GB HD, SATA, 7200 RPM
- 8 GB of RAM
- Airport Extreme Wi-Fi card
- 10/100/1000 Gigabit Ethernet
- Video card with at least 512 MB of dedicated RAM\*
- SuperDrive 8x

You are responsible for your computer repair. We recommend you purchase a 3 year, next business day, on-site warranty, with complete care in case of accidental damage.

Medill does not recommend any specific laptop. Please shop around for the best deal on a laptop that meets the minimum required laptop hardware specifications listed above and your individual preferences. As a suggestion, the Dell Latitude E6520 laptop <http://www.dell.com/medill> meets the Windows specifications as does the MacBook Pro at <http://www.norris.northwestern.edu/services/apple-campus-store/>.

### **Minimum required software and versions for Windows**

1. Microsoft Office Professional Plus 2010 Suite (Student Select) <http://northwestern.onthehub.com/>
2. Symantec Endpoint Protection (Anti-virus software): <http://www.it.northwestern.edu/software/sav/win/index.html>. Note: Before installing the NU Symantec Anti-Virus client, be sure to uninstall any existing anti-virus application(s) you may have on your computer.
3. IBM SPSS Graduate Pack (newest version) <http://northwestern.onthehub.com/>

### **Minimum required software and versions for Mac**

1. Microsoft Office 2011 for Mac (English) (Student Select) <http://northwestern.onthehub.com/>
2. Symantec Anti-virus software: <http://www.it.northwestern.edu/software/sav/mac/index.html>. Note: Before installing the NU Symantec Anti-Virus client, be sure to uninstall any existing anti-virus application(s) you may have on your computer.
3. IBM SPSS Graduate Pack (newest version) <http://northwestern.onthehub.com/>

The software listed above can be purchased at a significant discount from the websites listed. You will need to log on with your netID and password.

If you have questions about which laptop or software to purchase or whether your current laptop meets the minimum required laptop hardware specifications, please contact:

Tim Lange  
Manager, User Support  
847-491-5828  
[timlange@northwestern.edu](mailto:timlange@northwestern.edu)

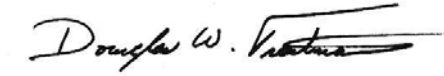
Brett Keller  
User Support Specialist  
847- 491-2285  
[blkeller@northwestern.edu](mailto:blkeller@northwestern.edu)

**Note:** These recommendations regarding laptops and software are made as of the date of this letter. The manufacturers of these items update discontinue and modify their products regularly so we cannot guarantee these items will be available when you are ready to place your order. Please refer to the Medill IT Website for our most current recommendations <http://www.medill.northwestern.edu/it/techspecs.aspx> and please shop around to find the best possible price.

Please purchase the required hardware and software at least 30 days before classes start to make sure you are ready for your first class. All software should be installed before your first class.

We hope you are as excited about Medill and the future as we are. We look forward to welcoming you. If you have questions about the cost of the required equipment, please contact the Office of Graduate Admissions and Financial Aid.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas W. Troutman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Douglas W. Troutman  
Associate Dean  
Administration and Information Technology  
Medill School  
Northwestern University