EQUIPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INCOMING **COMPUTER SCIENCE/INFORMATICS** STUDENTS

May 2021

Welcome to Baylor!

Beginning in Fall 2021, incoming Computer Science and Informatics students are required to have a laptop computer. While the type of computer is a personal choice, we recommend a system with the following minimum configuration:

- Multi core processor
- 16GB+ of system memory
- 500GB or larger hard drive (SSD highly recommended)
- Support for OpenGL[1]
- An 802.11an or better wireless network card
- Web camera and microphone

Baylor University has existing relationships with Apple and Dell to extend discounts to our students. More information on the products and discounts they offer can be found under the hardware link at https://www.baylor.edu/helpdesk[2]. Baylor also provides AirBear wireless networking in most academic buildings and common areas to allow students to use portable devices wherever they wish to work.

As a Baylor student, you will have access to software for use on personal systems including Microsoft's Office 365 at no additional charge. More details on the software available to all Baylor students can be found at https://www.baylor.edu/its/homesoftware[2]. Most of the Computer Science specific software used is freely available for download, allowing students to configure a system similar to the computers available in departmental provided labs.

Other helpful links:

- Baylor Helpdesk+ (http://www.baylor.edu/helpdesk -> Hardware)
    - o Provides links to computer hardware discounts, details about personal computer repairs and campus wide printing information via PawPrints.
- Home software for students (https://www.baylor.edu/its/homesoftware)
- Baylor Libraries' New Student Website (https://www.baylor.edu/library/newstudent)
- The Baylor Bookstore (http://www.baylor.edu/bookstore/)
    - o Staff at the bookstore may be able to provide assistance with software selection and installation.

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[1] Support for OpenGL requires a graphics co-processor. This may be a dedicated graphics card, a co-processor imbedded on the motherboard, or integrated in the main cpu.

[2] Access to these pages requires your Bear_ID to view the details so make sure you have that set up first.