Computer and Equipment Requirements

To use Minerva's platform for taking classes, you will need a laptop that meets the platform's technical requirements. Two machines that have been tested by Minerva's product team are listed in the table below for your reference. As manufacturers may update their laptop models from year to year, it is possible that these recommendations may also be updated.

O/S	Windows	OS X
Model	DELL Inspiron 7380	Apple MacBook Pro 13" MR9Q2LL
Display	1920x1080 13.3"	2560x1600 13.2"
Processor	Quad-core Intel i5-8265U (1.6GHz)	Quad-core Intel Core i5-8279U (2.4GHz)
Weight	2.93 pounds	3.02 pounds
Battery Life	38Wh	58Wh
RAM Memory	8GB	8GB
Storage	256GB SSD	256 SSD
Wireless	802.11ac wireless	802.11ac wireless

Additional Equipment

Ethernet Adapter and Cable
We recommend students to purchase the below items for connecting your laptop to a wired Ethernet connection only if the wi-fi connection is not sufficient for the smooth running of the Minerva Forum platform.

For the recommended Dell, a USB Ethernet adapter or USB-C Ethernet adapter is required. For the recommended MacBook, a USB-C Ethernet adapter is required.
In all cases, you will also need an Ethernet cable.

Headphones and Microphone Headset
You must have a working headset. We recommend buying a sound isolating headset such as the Sennheiser SC60 Headset, which provides superior sound for you and picks up your voice accurately.

Graphic Drawing Tablet
We strongly recommend purchasing a graphic drawing tablet for drawing on the in-class whiteboard. Choose between the Huion 420 (least expensive, most portable), the Huion 680s

(slightly larger, slightly more expensive), or an iPad with the Astropad app (most expensive, only works with Mac, can run other apps).

Computer Requirements

If you wish to use a computer other than one of the two recommended above, please make sure it meets the following recommended system requirements. ***The most important requirement is a modern quad-core processor.*** Do not buy a laptop with a dual-core processor.

Recommended System Requirements
- First, download the Geekbench 4 test and run it on your laptop. A multi-core score of 9000 or higher is highly recommended. In practice, you need a quad-core processor to meet this performance score.
- 16 GB RAM.
- SSD or Hybrid SSD/HDD hard drive with at least 256 GB capacity.
- 5 or more hours of battery life. The classroom is very demanding on the battery, and it will not last as long as the spec or advertised quantities specify. So, we recommend getting the best battery you can.
- Weight: You will likely find yourself carrying your laptop a lot, so be conscious of the weight.
- Centered Webcam: It's best to have your webcam located at the center above the display.

If you already own a computer and would like to use it, you may be able to use it as long as it meets the following minimum requirements. Note that these minimum requirements might provide suboptimal experience, and that the minimum requirements are likely to increase in future years before you complete the program.

Minimum System Requirements
- A multi-core score of 6800 or higher obtained by running this Geekbench 4 test.
- Mac OS or Windows operating system
- 8 GB RAM
- A working webcam
- Headphones with a mic

Enquiries
If you have any questions or you are considering using another laptop which is not listed on this flyer, please confirm with us at hkustminerva@ust.hk