Minimum Technology Requirements for Hybrid and Web Courses

Web and Hybrid courses at Calhoun require students to use Blackboard on a weekly basis throughout the semester. Blackboard is often used as a component in traditional face-to-face courses as well. Many courses also incorporate videos through Kaltura or proctored test through Honorlock. In order to ensure that students can access these platforms without problems, Calhoun requires that students comply with the following technical requirements.

Students who do not have personal access to a computer that meets these minimum requirements are welcome to contact IT about a loaner laptop (256-306-2700 or helpdesk@calhoun.edu) or utilize the open computer labs available on either the Huntsville or Decatur campus.

*Note: Individual classes may have additional requirements or restrictions beyond those identified here. Examples include software and plugins associated with publisher resources. Students should review the "Notes" for their courses in MyCalhoun or the course syllabus in Blackboard for details.

Minimum Technology Requirements

Device
Desktop or Laptop Computer

Operating System
Windows 10 & 11
Mac OS 10.14 +

Hardware
1.3 GHz processor
4 GB Ram
80 GB (20 GB free) hard drive

Browsers
Firefox 114+ (stable channel) from Mozilla
Chrome 112+ (stable channel) from Google*

Internet Connection
Broadband connection is necessary for an optimal experience

Adobe Reader
The latest version of Adobe Reader: https://get.adobe.com/reader/

MS Office
MS Office 2016, minimum

*Honorlock requires the use of Google Chrome.

MS Office 365 is recommended and free to Calhoun students and employees. Login to the MyCalhoun portal, click on Office 365, and click "Install Office" to download.

USB port
Necessary for peripheral devices

Web camera
Built-in Webcam on your computer or external Webcam
Suggested cameras included those available from Logitech: https://www.logitech.com/en-us/video/webcams

Microphone
Built-in on your computer, integrated with your Webcam, or external microphone
Suggested microphones include headsets available from Logitech: https://www.logitech.com/en-us/headsets?filters=consumer

Technologies NOT Supported

Device
Smart Phone
Tablets (iPad, Windows Tablet, etc.)
Chromebooks

Operating System
Windows XP, 7, 8, 10**S,** or 11**S**
Mac OSX through 10.13
Windows and Mac OS systems not running a supported browser

Browsers
Internet Explorer
Firefox through 113
Chrome through 111
Safari
Microsoft Edge

Internet Connection
Dial-up Internet Connections