Technology Requirements

Significant aspects of learning for all students will be facilitated through various forms of technological media over the course of the degree program. In a distance-learning format, technology and the associated equipment should be thought of as a "required textbook" that is necessary to complete the coursework. We strongly suggest that you have reliable and steady access to the internet, specifically through at least broadband access. Your internet access should allow you to participate in electronic classroom forums, video conferencing, podcasts, chat rooms, and Populi. There will also be times when you will be exchanging documents with fellow students and faculty and using software such as Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.

Minimum Specifications:

- **A computer:**
    - You will need a reliable computing device. Because there are many varieties of computing devices, rather than suggest particular hardware, your computing device should be capable of easily handling the specifications and activities outlined here. As a starting point, we recommend a device with a current and supported version of Windows or Mac OS.
    - Choose hardware that includes a built-in video camera and microphone as part of the package or purchase an external webcam and microphone that works with your device.
- **Internet Access:**
    - Access to high-speed internet (DSL/Cable/T1), capable of handling video conferencing.
- **Software:**
    - Internet browser such as Firefox, Safari, Chrome, or Microsoft Edge. We recommend your browser be setup to accept cookies and show the newest version of a webpage. We also recommend disabling pop-up blocking features on official websites used for coursework.
    - Office software capable of viewing, creating, and editing documents, spreadsheets, and presentations such as any of the following: Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) (free for MLTS students), iWorks (Pages, Numbers, Keynote), Google Suite, or LibreOffice. You will be required to submit assignments in word (.doc/.docx) and PDF formats.
    - A PDF viewer such as Adobe Reader or Foxit PDF Reader.
    - A media player capable of playing video and audio files such as Windows Media Player, VLC Media Player, or iTunes.
- **Conferencing**:
    - Telephone service that will allow for free long- distance calling. We expect that some courses will require approximately two hours of conference calls per week plus additional monthly conference calls on the weekend.
    - Video conferencing will be used as a teaching strategy over the course of your study. Students should expect to use various videoconferencing tools such as Zoom, Skype, or similar products.