

Computer Requirements

Please note that i-Pads and mobile devices do not work correctly with the Virtual Learning Environment we use.

To make the most of a Distance Learning course we recommend that you upgrade to the latest versions of programmes and that your computer meets the following specification:

a. Hardware

The hardware or Operating system of the computer is not important as long as the following requirements are met:

- **Speakers:** To play the sound files, the computer must have speakers or a headset connected. This also requires a sound output from the computer, which could be either a sound card or built into the motherboard.
- **Headphones with integrated microphone:** To enable students to record oral assessments.
- **Internet Connection:** To access the course work and for administrative support. Broadband (ADSL, Cable or other), is preferred to dial-up, in order to speed up the download of the MP3 sound files
- **Printer:** Reading the course work will be much easier if the PDF files are printed out on a printer

b. Software

The applications running on the computer are not important as long as the following requirements are met:

- **Web browser:** The computer must have a web browser to access the course work. Latest versions include:

Internet Explorer 7	www.microsoft.com
Firefox 2	www.mozilla.org
Opera 9.27	www.opera.com
Safari 3.1.1	www.apple.com/safari/
Konqueror 3.5.2	www.konqueror.org/

- **Adobe Acrobat PDF Reader:** The computer must have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed to read the course work files which are made available in PDF format. The latest version is Adobe Acrobat Reader 8.1 which can be downloaded from the internet at www.adobe.com.

- **MP3 Player:** The computer must be capable of playing MP3 sound files. These contain the audio portion of the Course Work. Latest versions include: Windows Media Player 10.0; Winamp 5.53; Realplayer 10.5; QuickTime (Windows) 7.1.5; QuickTime (Mac) 7.0; & xmms 1.2.
- **Sound Recording Software:** To record assessments on your computer, sound software is required. We would recommend that you use Audacity. If you don't already have it you can download it free of charge at <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/>
- **E-mail account:** The computer must have an e-mail account to enable the Course Team to communicate with the student via email.

It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that their computer is capable of running the latest versions of programs.