



Major Technology Guide

Choosing the **right technology**
for your major

2025-26



Alvernia
University



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About the Program

This document is the result of collaboration between Information Technology and university academic departments to determine the proper set of minimum computer requirements for all Alvernia students specific to major. The program works in with the university bookstore to take advantage of potential discounts and to allow students to use financial aid funds where appropriate.

Minimum Computer Recommendations at Alvernia University

The table below lists recommendations for computer purchases. Bookstore employees can help you select an option in either Life Span category with good-better-best options.

| | 1-2 Year Life Span | 3-4 Year Life Span |
|------------------|--|---|
| Processor | Current generation: Intel i5, AMD Ryzen 5 or Apple M Series 2 | Current generation of: Intel i7, AMD Ryzen 7 or Apple M Series 3 |
| RAM | 8GB | 16GB |
| Storage | 256 + SSD | 512GB + SSD |
| Display | HD or Retina | HD or Retina |
| Warranty | Accidental Damage Coverage | Accidental Damage Coverage |
| Operating System | Windows 11 or MAC OS 13 (Ventura) | Windows 11 or Mac OS 14 (Sonoma) |

Additional recommendations for hardware and software purchases are included in this booklet.

Alvernia Information Technology Services

Alvernia University offers support for technology at the walk-up desk located in the Franco Library and over the phone at (610) 230-5700. The team will support university-provided technology, but does not troubleshoot or support personal devices including tablets, computers, and mobile devices.

Software The web version of Microsoft Office 365 is provided free of charge to all currently enrolled Alvernia University students, and is required for use by all departments.

Learning Management Software Alvernia University uses Canvas as its LMS. Students can access Canvas through the Alvernia logins website. Canvas also provides a mobile app which can be downloaded from the App Store for iOS devices or the Google Play Store.

Canvas provides excellent support through two locations. There is 24/7 chat support accessible through the white question mark in the bottom left of every screen, and the Help & Resources folder has Alvernia-provided assistance updated on a regular basis.



Alvernia University Bookstore

The mission of the Alvernia University Bookstore is to provide the products and services to support the academic curriculum and campus life at Alvernia University. From your first class to your last, the Alvernia University Bookstore is your resource for all of your college needs. Whether you're in need of a new notebook, a new sweatshirt, or a simple snack, we're here for you - conveniently located just steps away from class.

We gladly accept refunds providing a receipt accompany the merchandise. Generally, textbooks may be returned during the first seven days of the semester. Complete refund policies are posted in the bookstore and on the receipts.

Location - Campus Student Center

400 St. Bernadine Street
Reading, PA 19607

Phone: 610-796-8250

Fax: 610-976-2869

Email: 0562mgr@follett.com

The bookstore provides access to the hardware and software you will need to be successful in your coursework. Feel free to connect with bookstore staff during any visit to campus or reach out via phone or email to ask questions about purchasing the right equipment for class.





College of Innovation, Discovery, and Enterprise

Choral Activities

Music offerings seek to serve students by presenting the basics of music and the relationship of music to other areas of human endeavor. Skills courses seek to develop the student as a performer to foster self-expression and enjoyment of the art of music. Performance groups include chorus and ensembles.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a minor in Music. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore.

Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



Department of Natural and Applied Sciences

At the forefront of scientific discovery and innovation, the Department of Natural and Applied Sciences offers a dynamic and interdisciplinary academic experience. It is dedicated to preparing students for meaningful careers and advanced study in science, healthcare, research and environmental stewardship. As one of the university's largest departments, we are proud to house over seven distinct programs each designed to foster critical thinking, scientific inquiry and hands-on learning.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a Bachelors of Science degree. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore.

Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Testing Software: Instructors may elect to use Respondus Lockdown Browser as a remote proctor for exams. There is a link to download the University-specific version of Respondus in the *Course Resources for Students* module of your Canvas courses.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



The John R. Post School of Engineering

At Alvernia, engineering students are actively involved from day one. Whether you choose Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Civil Engineering, or Industrial Engineering Technology and Management, you will gain hands-on experience that prepares you for the real world.

Our design-focused curriculum ensures that students work in teams each year to complete meaningful projects. These are guided by industry professionals or research faculty. In your third year, you can choose to intern with a company or contribute to a research project. In your fourth year, you will complete a full-year capstone project with an industry partner, applying everything you have learned to a real challenge.

You will learn in modern labs equipped with millions of dollars in professional-grade tools and technology. Our expanding maker space provides additional opportunities to design, build, and explore. Small class sizes mean your professors know who you are and are available to help you succeed. Course schedules are flexible and student-athlete friendly.

Throughout the year, undergraduate seminars bring local companies and faculty researchers to campus to share opportunities, offer advice, and connect with students who are ready to make an impact.

At Alvernia, engineering is more than a degree. It is a path to a successful and rewarding future.

Table: Computer Recommendations for Engineering Majors

| | Tier I | Tier II |
|------------------|---|---|
| Processor | Current generation of: Intel i7, AMD Ryzen 7 or Apple M Series 2 | Current generation of: Intel i9, AMD Ryzen 9 or Apple M Series 3 |
| RAM | 16GB | 64GB |
| Storage | 512GB SSD | 1TB SSD |
| Display | HD or Retina | HD or Retina |
| Warranty | Accidental Damage Coverage | Accidental Damage Coverage |
| Operating System | Windows 11 or MAC OS 13 (Ventura) | Windows 11 or Mac OS 14 (Sonoma) |
| Accessories | Multiple USB-C ports USB-A port or converter | Multiple USB-C ports USB-A port or converter |

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: The Engineering Department recommends Windows 11 with a minimum of 16GB of RAM and 512GB SSD local storage. Computers should be outfitted with multiple USB-C ports and at least one USB-A port or converters. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore.

Software: The Engineering Department recommends installing the Microsoft Office platform directly onto your computer and not rely on using the web version of Office 365. Depending on discipline, additional software purchases may be required as you progress through the program.

Testing Software: Instructors may elect to use Respondus Lockdown Browser as a remote proctor for exams. There is a link to download the University-specific version of Respondus in the *Course*

Resources for Students module of your Canvas courses.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



Fine and Performing Arts

As long as there have been human beings, there has been art. Art brings beauty to our surroundings through creative expression of emotion. Music is a universal language that forms gates of communication across cultures. Theater opens our hearts to the experiences of people in situations outside of our routine life. The Arts awaken our imaginations and encourage intellectual and emotional reflection. Most would argue that the arts are essential – that they are part of the very core of humanity.

Art, Music, and Theatre are versatile minors which, in conjunction with your major, can prepare you for a variety of rewarding careers. (Students can major in theatre or minor in the program.) The knowledge and skills you'll develop through a minor in the arts will complement your major and make you a viable and competitive candidate for jobs.

Alvernia graduates who minor in the arts find jobs as performers, counselors, researchers, teachers, business managers and journalists. Some work as graphic designers, for newspapers or magazines, for theaters or non-profit organizations. Some have started their own businesses, while others choose to work in the public sector.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a degree in Fine and Performing Arts. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore..

Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



Math and Technology

The power of technology in today's world has opened the door to unlimited career opportunities across every industry. Alvernia's Computer Science programs provide the specialized skill set and expertise that students will need to stay on the leading edge of this continually evolving field. We are not afraid of AI: artificial intelligence is integrated in all programs across the technology department.

Mathematics is one of Alvernia's highest paying and most sought after majors. Furthermore, math majors consistently score high on entrance exams for medical school and law school. Majoring in math will teach students critical thinking, and quantitative and analytical skills that are in high demand by employers.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a degree in Math and Technology. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore..

Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



| Department | Recommendations | |
|------------------|-----------------|---------|
| | Apple | Windows |
| Computer Science | | ● |
| Creativity | ● | |
| Cyber Security | | ● |
| Data Science | ● | ● |
| Engineering | | ● |
| Math | | ● |

Cybersecurity

Taught by industry professionals, Alvernia's cybersecurity major focuses on current and future threats affecting individuals, networks and infrastructures. Coursework is specifically designed to prepare students for employment in the private and government sectors. Students interested in cybersecurity might also consider the data science and computer science majors.

A degree is needed but certifications are essential. At Alvernia, students in the cybersecurity program learn skills that are sought after in the field and ready to sit for industry certification exams that showcase mastery and proficiency in cybersecurity and related fields. By the time students graduate, they will be prepared for up to six industry certifications:

- ISC2 Certified in Cybersecurity
- CompTIA Security+
- CompTIA Network+
- CompTIA Certified Ethical Hacker
- OSCP
- ISACA ITCA

Berks Cyber Alliance

Alvernia created the Berks Cyber Alliance, a consortium of industry professionals meeting quarterly to discuss current threats and trends. Students in Alvernia's cybersecurity program are able to participate in meetings, which gives them the ability to network with professionals within the cybersecurity field. Speakers include professionals from FBI, CIA, Secret Service and private industry. Attendees include CIOs, CISOs and other technology experts from Berks County.

Research

Alvernia strives to provide the highest level of research opportunities. Examples include AI crimes research and creating a mobile hacking station from a robot dog. We work with multiple governmental and private entities to come up with the most interesting and relevant research.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a degree in Math and Technology. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore..

Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



Data Science

Alvernia University's Data Science major focuses on teaching students how to extract, manipulate, analyze, visualize, and disseminate data. Students in the program work with real-world datasets in subject areas such as finance, economics, geography, and healthcare. The Data Science major combines techniques and knowledge from many fields including computer science and mathematics.

Alvernia's Data Science majors will learn to use current technologies and software solutions to provide valuable insights to key stakeholders. Some programming languages used in the major include:

- Python - R - SQL

Additionally, students will gain hands-on experience with SAS Viya, one of the world leaders in analytic software.

Graduating with a data science degree from Alvernia primes students to pursue careers in industrial, governmental, and professional fields. Additionally, students will be prepared to attend graduate school to continue their education. Students interested in data science might also consider the cybersecurity and computer science majors.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a degree in Fine and Performing Arts. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore..

Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



The Header School of Business

Advanced technology, alternative business models and the rise in entrepreneurship are redefining the way we do business and creating new and innovative platforms for global commerce. Alvernia University's Header School of Business programs put students at the forefront and prepare them to excel in the workforce of the future.

Combining classroom and experiential learning, business education at Alvernia provides the foundations for careers in accounting, finance, marketing, human resources and specialized areas of management. Students learn from accomplished practitioners who not only have years of experience in their respective fields but also research and publish on the latest business trends. Every program emphasizes ethical business practices in the spirit of the university's rich Franciscan tradition.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for The Header School of Business.

| Department | Recommendations | |
|--|-----------------|---------|
| | Apple | Windows |
| Masters of Business Administration | | ● |
| Masters of Arts in Organizational Leadership | ● | ● |
| Ph.D. in Leadership | ● | ● |
| Accounting | | ● |
| Business Administration and Management | | ● |
| Communication | ● | |
| Digital Media Marketing | ● | |
| Economics | | ● |
| Finance | | ● |
| Healthcare Administration | | ● |
| Human Resource Management | | ● |
| Marketing | ● | ● |
| Sport Management | ● | ● |

Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Microsoft Excel: All students in the College of Business, Communication and Leadership are encouraged to purchase the app version of Excel since the web version that comes with Office 365 will have limitations. Students can get an educational discount to purchase Excel through the Alvernia Bookstore.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.

College of Health Sciences

Exercise Science

The mission of the exercise science program is to prepare entry-level exercise science students for careers in health promotion, fitness facilities, colleges and universities, clinical rehabilitation, and sport and athletic conditioning programs with potential eligibility for various certifications. After completing their studies, numerous exercise science graduates opt for advanced healthcare degrees, including medicine, physician assistant, and physical and occupational therapy. Alternatively, for those passionate about fitness and sports careers, there are diverse options such as coaching, corporate and individual fitness, exercise rehabilitation specialists, or strength and conditioning coaches.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a degree in Exercise Science. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore.

Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Testing Software: Instructors may elect to use Respondus Lockdown Browser as a remote proctor for exams. There is a link to download the University-specific version of Respondus in the *Course Resources for Students* module of your Canvas courses.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



Athletic Training (MSAT)

The Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT) program at Alvernia University provides students with an intellectual and clinical foundation, enabling them to play an important role in the health care of athletes, those involved in physical activity, and those who seek to incorporate activity and wellness into their lives. The program combines Alvernia's Franciscan core values with the foundation of evidence-based practice in theory and clinical experiences. Graduates of the MSAT program become highly qualified health professionals in the field of athletic training capable of "knowledge joined with love."

Athletic trainers focus on the prevention, assessment, immediate care, and rehabilitation alongside of physicians. Our program offers a wide foundation of skills to address injuries and illnesses resulting from sport, recreation, work, and other physical activities.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a degree in Athletic Training. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore.

Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through

the web interface.

Testing Software: Instructors may elect to use Respondus Lockdown Browser as a remote proctor for exams. There is a link to download the University-specific version of Respondus in the *Course Resources for Students* module of your Canvas courses.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



Nursing

The John and Karen Arnold School of Nursing at Alvernia University prepares future nursing professionals to enter the field ready to provide skillful, compassionate healthcare in virtually every setting, from community health clinics and hospitals to schools and nursing homes to emergency and disaster relief sites. Combining theory with clinical practice, the curriculum develops the skill set necessary for nurses to not only address the physical and psychological needs of their patients across the lifespan, but also to educate and advocate, counsel, research and problem solve with sensitivity and understanding.

In 2024, the program achieved a 100% pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) for its pre-licensure nursing students. This significant milestone highlights the university's continued dedication to preparing highly skilled nursing professionals ready to meet the demands of modern healthcare.

In addition to the NCLEX success, Alvernia's nursing programs have been honored by the Colleges of Distinction for the fifth consecutive year. The recognition celebrates the university's dedication to delivering high-quality, student-centered education. Alvernia's nursing program continues to stand out for its hands-on learning experiences, high student satisfaction, and strong graduate outcomes. The BSN program was also recognized by the U.S. News and World Report as a top-600 program in the country.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a degree in Nursing. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore.



Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Testing Software: The Nursing Department uses a web-based testing platform called ExamSoft to for assessments. It is strongly recommended that students own a laptop meeting the minimum standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document to assure the best possible test-taking experience.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



Healthcare Science

Healthcare sciences focus on the development of knowledge and programs that promote health and well-being. With tracks in Athletic Coaching, Healthcare Informatics, and Outdoor Adventures, Alvernia University's Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Science degree teaches students how to advocate for individuals and communities that are underserved or under-informed on issues related to health and wellness, health-system policies and health management. It is also an excellent major to "jump start" into other healthcare degrees such as physical therapy, occupational therapy, athletic training and others.

Alvernia's program graduates advocate for individuals and communities that are underserved or underinformed on issues related to health and wellness, health-system policies and health management.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a degree in Healthcare Science. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore.



Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Testing Software: Instructors may elect to use Respondus Lockdown Browser as a remote proctor for exams. There is a link to download the University-specific version of Respondus in the *Course Resources for Students* module of your Canvas courses.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



Physical Therapy

More than 120,000 physical therapists are licensed in the U.S., treating nearly 1 million people every day. Alvernia University's Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program aspires to develop "ethical leaders with moral courage," prepared to assume a leadership role in addressing the health-related concerns society faces. Alvernia's DPT program utilizes a state-of-the-art facility, featuring Anatomage Virtual Dissection tables, a research lab with motion analysis system, a real-time ultrasound unit, a split-belt treadmill, surface electromyography and accelerometers.

The DPT program is offered in a 4+3 year curricular format or a 3+3 year accelerated format. Alvernia students who are admitted as undergraduate students into one of 4 majors (Biochemistry, Biology, Healthcare Science, or Psychology) begin the professional phase of the curriculum in their senior year. Upon maintaining the required GPA and completion of all admission requirements, these students are eligible to compete with other accelerated students for entrance into the program and may complete their undergraduate training and doctoral degree within 6 years.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a degree in Physical Therapy. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore.

Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Testing Software: Instructors may elect to use Respondus Lockdown Browser as a remote proctor for exams. There is a link to download the University-specific version of Respondus in the *Course Resources for Students* module of your Canvas courses.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



Occupational Therapy

Occupational therapy promotes health, well-being, and life satisfaction by supporting participation in meaningful, purposeful daily activities. OT practitioners empower individuals to live their best lives through preventive measures, recovery supports, or activity adaptation and modification. Becoming an occupational therapist is an excellent choice for students who are passionate about

helping others and are creative problem-solvers.

Alvernia University's post-baccalaureate Master of Science in Occupational Therapy program is designed for students with an earned bachelor's degree who are ready to take the next step in their professional journey. The MSOT curriculum prepares students for entry-level practice in traditional and role-emerging settings, and with clients across the lifespan: i.e., hospitals, clinics, schools, rehabilitation centers, skilled nursing facilities, home health, etc. Comprising compassion, creativity and client-centric solutions, occupational therapy meets the health needs of an ever changing world.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a degree in Occupational Therapy. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore.

Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Testing Software: Instructors may elect to use Respondus Lockdown Browser as a remote proctor for exams. There is a link to download the University-specific version of Respondus in the *Course Resources for Students* module of your Canvas courses.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



Physician Associate

Physician associates are licensed clinicians who practice medicine in every specialty and setting. Trusted, rigorously educated and trained healthcare professionals, PAs are dedicated to expanding access to care and transforming health and wellness through patient-centered, team-based medical practice.

Alvernia will offer two pathways to obtain a Master of Medical Sciences in Physician Associate Studies: a Bio-PA (3+2) accelerated track and a traditional post-baccalaureate program. The Bio-PA (3+2) accelerated track is a fast-paced course of study which allows focused students to obtain both a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and a Master of Medical Science degree within five years. The Alvernia University Physician Associate Program will welcome its first class in August of 2024! Please refer to our updated accreditation status from the ARC-PA. At this time, the Bio-PA (3+2) accelerated track is only available for first-year students. We invite transfer students to complete another major and apply for the Master of Medical Science in Physician Associate Studies after completion of their baccalaureate degree.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: The Physician Associate program strongly recommends students use a windows PC with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore.

Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Testing Software: The Physician Associate program uses a web-based testing platform called ExamMaster to for assessments. It is strongly recommended that students own a PC laptop meeting the minimum standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document to assure the best possible test-taking experience.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.





College of Humanities, Education, and Social Sciences

Addictions and Mental Health Treatment

Alvernia's Bachelor of Arts in Addictions and Mental Health Treatment program develops broad-based skills necessary to address the challenges presented by today's complex addictions and mental health treatment problems. With over 40 years of history, the program is one of the oldest and best of its kind to be found at the college or university level. It was recently ranked #10 among the Top 25 Small Colleges for Substance Abuse Counseling Degrees by SR Education Group, now known as Optimal.

Class Delivery Note: All AMHT classes are fully online. Undergraduate residential students in the program take their general education courses in person. Commuter students should talk to their admissions counselor to identify the best delivery options for their circumstances.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a degree in Addictions and Mental Health Treatment. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore.

Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



Communication and Digital Media

Communication is at the heart of our human interaction, and a necessity in an increasingly networked world. The speed at which we connect and the sheer volume of communication made possible every day through advancing technology and innovation is nothing short of revolutionary. Communication is an excellent choice for students skilled at writing, public speaking, performing and fine arts, graphic design, marketing and social media, and offers career possibilities in virtually every industry.

Alvernia's Communication program is located within the John R. Post Center at Reading College-Towne in the heart of downtown Reading. The state-of-the-art facility allows Alvernia students to expand multimedia content creation, including YouTube videos and podcasts. New studio and lab spaces enable students to learn how to use the latest technologies to prepare for the needs of the 21st-century marketplace. Students also can get hands-on experience at a television station located in CollegeTowne. Berks Community Television (BCTV), one of the country's oldest, consistently active cable access channels, offers students the opportunity to take classes, intern, volunteer or produce content. Communication majors also can write for *The Alvernian*, Alvernia's college newspaper, and *The Wolf's Howl*, the communication and digital media department's online publication.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for many of our Communications degrees. It is recommended that students pursuing degrees in **Digital Media** purchase computers that meet the standards in the table below.

Software: **Communication** and **Digital Media** will use some applications in the Adobe Creative Cloud platform. It is recommended that students purchase a license that includes access to Adobe Acrobat, Audition, Illustrator, InDesign, & Photoshop. Licenses are available to purchase through the Alvernia Bookstore.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.

Table: Minimum Recommendations for Communication & Digital Media Majors

| | 1-2 Year Life Span | 3-4 Year Life Span |
|------------------|---|---|
| Processor | Current generation of: Intel i7, AMD Ryzen 7 or Apple M Series 2 | Current generation of: Intel i9, AMD Ryzen 9 or Apple M Series 3 |
| RAM | 32GB | 64GB |
| Storage | 1TB SSD | 1TB SSD + Cloud Service |
| Display | HD or Retina | HD or Retina |
| Warranty | Accidental Damage Coverage | Accidental Damage Coverage |
| Operating System | Windows 11 or MAC OS 13 (Ventura) | Windows 11 or Mac OS 14 (Sonoma) |



Criminal Justice

In a nation that faces many complex challenges, from human trafficking and cybercrime to gang violence and the drug epidemic, criminal justice practitioners need to be equipped with specialized intelligence and skills to fight 21st century crime and ensure that justice is served. Alvernia University's Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice Administration prepares students with the education required to enter careers in enforcement, investigation, social services, law, victim services and



other related professions. Experiential learning enriches the curriculum, providing students many opportunities to work in the field.

Taught by professionals in Criminal Justice careers and professors with backgrounds in areas including law, law enforcement, the Courts, security, the FBI, and research, the program at Alvernia offers current practices and timely information to its students. Flexible scheduling allows adult learners to incorporate classes into their busy lives.

Interpersonal skills as well as managerial and administrative subject matter prepare students for positions of responsibility and leadership within the criminal justice community and related professions. Students can specialize in areas such as police officers, probation and parole officers, corrections officers, security specialists, victim services, pretrial counselors, and other rehabilitative programs.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a degree in Criminal Justice. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore.

Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



Education

Knowledge joined with love. This principle of the great Franciscan St. Bonaventure inspires and guides Alvernia's education programs. Join us and experience the power of education in the Franciscan tradition: compassionate, caring, and transformative.

The Education Department offers programs for a broad range of educators, from aspiring to licensed teachers to educational administrators. Prepare to transform children's lives and advance your professional career. Alvernia students have a range of programs to choose from, all of which are accredited by the Pennsylvania State Department of Education.

Our education professors offer students their experience in PK-12 and higher education, innovative instructional approaches, educational research, and inspiring mentorship. We are here for all educators - aspiring, novice, and seasoned - who come to Alvernia's education programs to grow as ethical leaders with moral courage to do well and do good.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a degree in Education. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore.

Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



Humanities

Department Summary

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a degree in Leadership. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore.

Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



Leadership

Leadership is calling. Those who answer, aspire to lead through deep-rooted convictions to service and the common good. Guided by our core Franciscan values of collegiality, contemplation, humility, peacemaking, and service, Alvernia University cultivates ethical leaders with moral courage to do well and do good.

Alvernia offers world-class leadership and ethics programs enhanced by community engagement and service opportunities. It's a combination that deepens the theoretical knowledge imparted in the classroom through practical real-world applications – all while making an immediate impact on the community. Our approach to leadership is multi-disciplinary. Our programs focus on more than just basic skill-building. We take a broader view that teaches students to understand and value context, constraints, and relationships in the world around us.

Recommended Purchases



Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a degree in Leadership. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore.

Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface. SPSS Grad Pack will be required for PHD 704 and 853. Students will receive more information on options for purchase from your instructors.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



Psychology

A fascinating major and an applied science, psychology prepares students for careers in virtually any industry. It also prepares them for life by teaching important skills like communication and critical thinking. In addition to participating in real-world learning through internships and service learning experiences, psychology majors at Alvernia conduct collaborative research alongside faculty scholars.

When students earn a bachelor's degree in psychology, they acquire the skills and knowledge needed to thrive in numerous fields. Most psychology majors pursue careers in healthcare, criminal justice, forensics, education, business and the nonprofit arena. Others continue their education to earn advance degrees in specific areas of healthcare, counseling and education.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a degree in Psychology. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore.



Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



Masters in Clinical Counseling

The AMH/MACC degree is designed for students who wish to become ethical professional counselors skilled in treating mental health and addiction disorders. The AMH /MACC program's mission "is designed to develop professionally ethical practitioners trained within the Franciscan tradition of Alvernia University to promote social justice, dignity and respect for all human life within the community."

Alvernia counseling students have the opportunity to take the National Counselor Examination (NCE) and choose the NCE because of its portability to other states for licensure purposes. Most students who take the NCE in their final semester of coursework pass this examination on their first attempt. Many graduates of the MACC program have become licensed without delay after successfully completing two years and 3,000 hours of supervised clinical experience as required by law. Alvernia's masters program is available in a 4-year curricular format for part-time students and a 3-year curriculum format for full-time students.

The addictions and mental health treatment major can be followed as a 3+3 curricular track leading to potential matriculation into the Master of Arts in Clinical Counseling program in the senior year. That addictions and mental health treatment curricular track and the 8-semester plan for the 3+3 year curricular track are specifically detailed and differ from the 8-semester plans for the 4-year undergraduate major in addictions and mental health treatment.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a Masters in Clinical Counseling. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore..

Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



Social Work

A time-honored profession that is vital to enhancing human well-being, social workers improve societal conditions by promoting social justice and addressing the needs of those who are vulnerable and affected by poverty. Social workers primarily assist families, disadvantaged children or elderly citizens who are in transition. Alvernia's Bachelor of Social Work program offers a rigorous, caring and inclusive learning community, preparing you for employment or for graduate studies.

Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) graduates who meet the criteria are eligible for Advanced Standing, meaning they can complete an accelerated curriculum to earn a master's degree in social work from CSWE-accredited MSW programs.

Recommended Purchases

Hardware: Computers purchased with the standards listed in the *About The Program* section of this document will meet the requirements for a degree in Social Work. Computers that meet either requirement may be purchased through the Alvernia Bookstore.

Software: Microsoft Office 365 is available for free for Alvernia University students to use through the web interface.

Note: Coursework in another college or division could affect operating system recommendations.



