Disclosure of Online Learning Expectations

This disclosure outlines the **minimum technology requirements** for students enrolled in online or hybrid courses at **Albright College**.

Minimum Technology Requirements

Computer

Students must have regular access to a reliable desktop or laptop computer that meets the following specifications:

- A computer **is less than five (5) years old.** Minimum: 8 GB of RAM and an Intel i3 / AMD Ryzen 3 processor (or equivalent). Recommended: 16 GB of RAM and an Intel i5 / AMD Ryzen 5 processor (or equivalent).
- **Chromebooks are not recommended**, as they may not be compatible with all Brightspace LMS features or third-party instructional tools used in Albright courses
- Supported operating systems include Windows 11 and macOS 14 (Sonoma) or newer. Students are responsible for maintaining current system updates

Mobile devices (phones or tablets) may be used to view content but **are not sufficient** as a primary device for accessing all digital textbooks or completing coursework.

Audio, Video, and Peripherals

To fully participate in online instruction, students must have:

- A **webcam** and **microphone** for live class meetings and recorded assignments
- Headphones or earbuds are recommended for listening to lectures and media content
- An external microphone or headset is recommended to ensure clear audio quality during live sessions

Internet Access and Browsers

- Reliable high-speed internet access is required. Minimum: 25Mbps; Recommended: 200Mbps
- Students are encouraged to test their internet speed at www.speedtest.net
- Brightspace LMS is supported by the **latest versions** of the following browsers:
    - Google Chrome (recommended)
    - Mozilla Firefox
    - Microsoft Edge
    - Apple Safari
- Browser pop-ups must be enabled for full functionality, **"disable popup blocker"**

Required Software and Platforms

Brightspace Learning Management System (LMS)

Brightspace LMS is Albright College's official learning management system. Students are expected to be able to:

- Log in and navigate Brightspace courses using the Albright College Brightspace portal
- Access syllabi, course units, and instructional materials
- Download documents and presentations
- Stream video content embedded within Brightspace or hosted on supported platforms (e.g., YouTube)
- Participate in online discussions
- Submit assignments and projects
- Complete quizzes and exams
- Review grades and instructor feedback

Microsoft Teams

Microsoft Teams is the College's primary platform for synchronous online instruction and collaboration. Students must be able to:

- Access Microsoft Teams via the desktop application or supported web browser
- Join and participate in live class meetings
- Use audio, video, chat, and screen-sharing tools in a professional and course-appropriate manner
- Collaborate in Teams as required by instructors

Microsoft 365

Albright College provides students with access to Microsoft 365. Students are expected to:

- Access Microsoft 365 using their Albright credentials
- Create and edit documents using:
    - Microsoft Word
    - Microsoft PowerPoint
    - Microsoft Excel
- Send and receive email using Microsoft Outlook

Additional Software

- **Adobe Acrobat Reader** for viewing and annotating PDF files
- Other discipline-specific or course-required software as identified by the instructor