

Drew University Computer Initiative



2008

Technology is central to the mission of education at Drew. At most other universities, instructional computing needs are met by hundreds of computers in computer labs, that students are often required to use, even if they have their own computers. At Drew, the computing lab is every student's laptop. Drew supplies a standard notebook computer for an additional charge on the term bill. Many courses require the use of the computer both in and out of class, and almost all courses rely on the student's access to a standard computer at any time. The Drew network is designed with special features to support academic courses, including shared space that is automatically reserved for the faculty and students in each course. With ubiquitous computing, students have 24 hour access to a fully managed computing environment, customized for the student's needs and coursework, and fully supported by the technology organization. This is Drew's 25th year of a ubiquitous computing strategy for instructional technology. Drew was the first liberal arts college in the US to provide computers to students, and has been awarded a Pioneer Award by the national organization EDUCAUSE for its student computer program.

The Drew computer comes pre-configured with a standard software package, a four year warranty and accidental damage coverage, fully supported through the Computing and Network Services Help Desk and an on-campus repair shop. Because of the University's academic and volume discounts, the purchase price is well below list price, and the University offers a financing option that allows the cost to be spread over four semesters.

Students this year will have the choice of the standard Lenovo ThinkPad T400 notebook computer, or a Tablet PC option, the ThinkPad X61 Tablet. In order to purchase the Drew standard computer or the tablet option, simply complete the Computer Selection form that can be found at www.drew.edu/2012. Your computer will be delivered to you in a fully configured manner during orientation. A Drew standard computer will provide the best support for you in your academic program and is very strongly recommended.*

Questions may be sent by email to ci@drew.edu.

*Exceptions may be granted in extraordinary situations for computers that are close to or exceed the Drew standard and can be accommodated on the Drew network, but support for such computers will be limited. Please see the back of this brochure for details.

Drew University Standard Computers 2008

STANDARD LAPTOP: LENOVO THINKPAD T400



Why is the image blurred? The computer is so new we can't show it to you yet!

STANDARD COST*

ThinkPad T 400 with carrying case	\$1590.00
Software fee	\$ 100.00
Total cost	\$1690.00

*Plus applicable NJ sales tax

DEFERRED PAYMENT OPTION

Total Cost Per Semester for First 4 Semesters	\$ 432.50
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SPECIFICATIONS

- **ThinkPad notebook**
- Intel Centrino 2 Laptop Chipset
- Intel Core 2 Duo T9400 Processor (2.5 GHz, 6MB cache)
- 14" TFT Active Matrix Widescreen Display WXGA+ (1400x900) with LED Backlight
- ATI Radeon graphics with 256MB dedicated memory
- DVD Multiburner optical drive
- Integrated 1.3 MP Web cam
- Travel weight 5 pounds

TABLET OPTION: LENOVO THINKPAD X61T TABLET



TABLET COST*

ThinkPad X61 with carrying case	\$1780.00
Software fee	\$100.00
Total Cost	\$1880.00

DEFERRED PAYMENT OPTION

Total Cost Per Semester for First 4 Semesters	\$ 480.00
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SPECIFICATIONS

- Ultralight 4lb Tablet PC
- Convertible between standard laptop and tablet modes
- 12.1" TFT display with touch-screen and pen input
- 1.8 GHz Ultra Low Voltage Intel Core Duo Processor

BOTH MODELS HAVE

- 2GB RAM (1 module)
- 250 GB HDD
- 10/100/1000 Wired Ethernet
- Intel 802.11 a/g/n Wireless Adapter
- 4 year warranty with ThinkPad Protection
- 6 cell Lithium-Ion battery
- 3 USB Ports
- Windows Vista Enterprise
- Microsoft Office 2007 Enterprise
- Integrated IEEE1394 (FireWire) port
- Media Card Reader
- Carrying case
- Adobe Digital School Collection software

VISTA OR WINDOWS XP?

All computers shipped from vendors after June 2008 are required by Microsoft to have Windows Vista installed. We will be providing Vista on both models of standard laptop, and will ensure compatibility with academic applications and provide full enterprise support. However, some students may wish to run Windows XP Professional for compatibility with

printers and other hardware, or other personal software. We will provide the ability to have your computer reimaged with Windows XP as an option. Specific instructions will be presented when you receive your computer at the start of the semester.

Drew University Computer Initiative Benefits

MEETS CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

- Required notebooks create anytime, anywhere, 1-to-1 computing environment
- Required for in-class use in many courses
- Fully configured for Drew network
- Network access to software
- Wireless access to Drew network

ON-CAMPUS TECHNICAL SUPPORT

- Warranty repair shop
- Help desk supports both standard computer and standard software
- Re-imaging service available when needed
- Loaners available during extended repair or when academically necessary (<http://depts.drew.edu/cns/support/policy/loanerpolicy.php>)
- Software updates
- Virus protection updates
- Windows security patches deployed through network
- Computer training for all incoming students

INDUSTRY STANDARD SOFTWARE

- Microsoft Office Campus Agreement (allows you to receive upgrades while you are at Drew and to have a perpetual license after graduation)
- Novell GroupWise email client
- Virus protection
- Academic software on network including
 - Mathematica
 - SPSS
 - Mathcad
 - EViews

DREW COMPUTING COMMUNITY

- Faculty— Know what computer you have and plan courses to leverage standard technology
- Students—Have the same computer, fostering common knowledge base about its use and features, and can share components
- Drew Technical Staff— Have expertise in configuration and repair of this computer
- Drew Technical Staff— Test new applications for the next four years to ensure compatibility with this computer, and provide regular software updates

Drew University Computer Initiative

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What is the rationale for your program?

A: Drew is recognized as an innovator in the use of technology in the liberal arts. Our guiding principles include ubiquity of technology access and providing an infrastructure for all faculty, staff, and students, that can be relied on for academic and administrative work. The Drew Standard Laptop is one part of a multi-tier technology strategy that includes a robust, reliable campus network infrastructure, reliable identity management services that ensure that students have the electronic resources that reflect their roles in the community, and fully-supported computers wherever, whenever students need them. Even including the additional charge of the laptop (which is often less than the cost of books for the semester) the Computer Initiative is a high quality program that allows us to provide the most reliable computing services at the best value to students.

Q: I already have a computer. Why can't I just use that?

A: The Drew laptop is a centrally provisioned and managed machine that can be relied upon the way that computing labs are used at other universities. To be able to provide that level of reliability, a degree of standardization is required. By having standard laptops with a standard configuration, we can ensure that faculty and students have machines that work in a predictable way, and can be repaired easily if they do not. In addition, an older computer may not be able to run the latest versions of our software, or may not be able to do so in one or two years. While your Drew laptop can meet all your computing needs during your time at Drew, it is certainly permissible for students also have another computer to use for games, music, etc.

Q: What about Macs?

A: Macintoshes are fine computers, and with their recent adoption of standard Intel components can even run Windows Vista. All of Drew's instructional technology offerings run on the Windows platform and do not run on MacOS, and some software may not be available for MacOS. We make every attempt to make Drew's network offerings compatible with MacOS when we can, but we cannot provide the same integrated, comprehensive environment that we can with the Drew standard laptop. Again, Macs are welcome on campus for personal, non-academic use. If you feel uncomfortable using Windows, rest assured that you can receive computer training to help you make the transition.

Q: Can I receive my computer early?

A: We make a bulk purchase directly from the manufacturer, and have the computers custom-built with our software configuration preloaded. It is usually not possible for the computers to be delivered early. If you have a compelling need to receive the laptop early, email ci@drew.edu to discuss options.

Q: I'm receiving a graduation present of a new computer. What should I do?

A: Ideally, the gift-giver will be familiar with Drew's program and offer to help pay for the Drew standard computer. Payment arrangements can be made directly with the Business Office.

Q: Why would I want the tablet instead of the laptop?

A: The tablet PC option is the ultimate in portability and flexibility. The TabletPC can be used lying flat on a desk, and can be written on much like a paper notebook. It is extremely convenient for taking notes. The disadvantages are lack of an optical drive (although one can be purchased as an option), a smaller screen, and a slower CPU.

The Computer Initiative is brought to you by the Department of Computing and Network Services at Drew University. For more information about our department and services please visit <http://depts.drew.edu/cns/>.

REQUESTING AN EXCEPTION TO THE COMPUTER REQUIREMENT

Having a standard laptop computer is an academic requirement. The best way to meet this requirement is to purchase the Drew Standard Laptop. In unusual circumstances, exceptions to purchasing the Drew Standard Computer will be granted on an individual basis. To be considered for an exception, you must state your reason for requesting an exception, indicate how using a non-standard computer will contribute to your academic performance, and how you will provide for support and maintenance. Since the Drew standard computers are employed in place of standardized computer labs, simply wanting to use a different brand of computer is not sufficient. Only computers that are **business class laptops, less than one year old**, with specifications similar to the Drew standard computers (for this year, Intel Core 2 Duo processor, 2GB RAM, 250 GB HDD, DVD multiburner, better than 1440x900 display) and licensed for **Windows Vista Business** will be considered. You should also have a comprehensive warranty with accidental damage protection. Home editions of Windows are not acceptable, and, although Windows XP Professional is a downgrade option, the computer must be certified and licensed to run Windows Vista Business. Models such as the Dell Inspiron, HP Pavilion and Compaq Presario are **not** business class computers and are not eligible for exceptions. The application may be found at www.drew.edu/2012.

A committee of faculty and technical staff will review the applications for exceptions. Even when exceptions are approved, it will be with the understanding that support for the computer will be limited. Among those limitations will be absence of on-campus hardware repair service and re-imaging service, limitations on network support and configuration support for academic software, and ineligibility for free loaner computers. Students will also still have to pay the \$100 software charge for Microsoft licensing. The decision of the committee will be final. We will notify you of the result of your application for exception by July 11, 2008. If your application is not approved, you will be required to purchase a Drew standard computer. If your application is approved, we will ask you to bring the approved computer with you for orientation week so that we can check it and advise you on how to proceed.