Computer recommendations for freshmen

Welcome to Ball State and the Department of Journalism. Among the benefits of experienced faculty and top-notch student media, the Department of Journalism prides itself on the integration of technology into the lessons you will learn as a student. Certainly, technology is a major part of the journalism, public relations and advertising fields. To better help you in your academic pursuits as a student in our department, we have a couple suggestions on what type of computer you should buy.

Below we list the suggested specifications and models for laptop computer purchases for students majoring in advertising, news-editorial, magazine, public relations or journalism secondary education.

The latest MacBook Pro laptops from Apple are a great fit for journalism department students. The new laptops include a fast i5 or i7 processor with a built-in iSight camera, extended battery life and wireless connectivity. With the additional capability to run Windows when needed – no other laptops can match their functionality or flexibility.

MacBook Pro 13” Non-Retina display (Model MD101LL/A) $1,282 plus tax
(From Ball State Technology Store as of 4/30/13)

2.5 GHZ Intel Core i5
4 GB Memory
320 GB hard drive
Intel HD Graphics 3000
SD card slot
Built-in 7 hour battery
Three year Apple protection plan

Further info on this model is available at
http://www.apple.com/macbook-pro/specs/

This package is offered by the BSU Technology store:
http://cms.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/technologystore/whatwecarry/computers/applecomputers
Below are the suggested specifications for students majoring in journalism graphics or photography.

MacBook Pro 15 inch Non-Retina display
(Model ML103LL/A) $2,148 plus tax
(From Ball State Technology Store as of 4/30/13)

2.3 GHZ Quad Core Intel Core i7
4GB memory
500 GB hard drive
Intel HD Graphics 4000 (integrated)
NVIDIA GeForce 650M (discrete)
SD card slot
Built-in 7 hour battery
Three year Apple protection plan

Further info on this model is available at
http://www.apple.com/macbook-pro/specs/

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All of the models listed above run OS X and Windows 7.

Full details on how you can run Windows natively on the MacBooks can be found at:
http://www.apple.com/support/bootcamp/

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