



DUKE LAW SCHOOL INFORMATION SERVICES
ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGIES DEPARTMENT
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Dear Members of the Class of 2013:

On behalf of the staff of Academic Technologies I would like to welcome you to Duke Law. The following letter is intended to provide you with some initial information about technology and our law school. The law school has made a strong commitment to technology, from making power available throughout the law school to videoconferencing and recording capability in class rooms and study rooms alike; from the big screen in the Star Commons to the Student Media Workshop, where you can make your own video projects come alive.

Although we do not require that you own a notebook computer, we anticipate that most of you will bring one or will purchase or pick up one shortly after your arrival. Your participation in the law school community will benefit from your having a recent-model notebook available to you throughout the day.

At our optional computer configuration sessions during Orientation, we will guide you through configuring your computer to operate on our network. We will also provide you with links to download most of the software you will need. **We encourage you to get a head start on this process. If you are able to do so, please visit our Web site <http://computing.law.duke.edu>, beginning Monday, August 2.** Click on the "Entering Fall Students" link, and you will find information and downloads to get your computer set up for use in the law school.

If you have not yet purchased a computer, please review our recommendations at <http://compspecs.law.duke.edu>. Because of the price and the special support that the Duke Computer Store offers in conjunction with Academic Technologies – including a special loaner program should your notebook require repair – we highly recommend the Dell or Apple student bundles at the store. You can visit the store's site at <http://www.dukecomputerstore.com> or phone them at 919-684-8956.

If you are bringing or buying an Apple MacBook computer, you should plan on using a software solution that allows you to install Windows on your notebook (such as Apple's Bootcamp, Parallels Desktop or VMWare Fusion, which is available for free download at Duke). Please note that some software in use at the law school provides no or little support for Macintosh (or Linux) users.

Note that Duke University has a site license with Microsoft that promises free or inexpensive access to Microsoft software such as Windows 7, as well as Office for Windows and for Macintosh. (We recommend that you consider paying a little to receive the disc with your software, since the free versions may ultimately stop working when you leave Duke.)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by email to wmiller@law.duke.edu or by phone, 919-613-7243. You may also contact the help desk (helpdesk@law.duke.edu or 919-613-7072). I look forward to meeting you in a few weeks.

Sincerely,

Wayne Miller