

## Distance Education Technical Specifications

Before you begin your online course(s) it is important that you make sure you have convenient, extended and individual access to the appropriate technology. Please review the specifications below to ensure that you have what is required. UNC Charlotte reserves the right to require future upgrades or additions to the technology package. The software specified below is considered to be the basic minimum package.

**Internet Access:** Students in this program must have access to the Internet with a 56K connection or better. We strongly recommend using a high-speed internet connection (e.g. cable, satellite or DSL) for greatest satisfaction with course access.

### **Certified and Compatible Browsers for Blackboard Vista**

To access your course content successfully, it is important that you use a browser that has been certified for use with Blackboard Vista. For best results and most up to date recommendations, we suggest you perform a Browser Check, which is available after logging in to Blackboard Vista or by going to the UNC Charlotte Blackboard login page at <https://ncvista.blackboard.com/> and clicking "Check Browser".

### **Required Software in addition to one of the above browsers:**

Microsoft Office XP 2003 or later (including Word, Excel, Access, FrontPage and PowerPoint); must be compatible with instructor's version. If using Office 2003, you will need to download the Office Compatibility Pack available at <http://www.microsoft.com/> (Search for "Office Compatibility Pack")

Virus Detection software with current virus definitions. Students may download Symantec antivirus for free at <http://www.labs.uncc.edu/basics/antivirus.html>.

Current free version of Adobe Reader (<http://www.adobe.com/>)

Current free version of Quick Time media playing software (<http://www.apple.com/quicktime/>)

Current free version of Adobe Flash Player (<http://www.adobe.com/>)

### **Recommended Software and Hardware Requirements:**

#### **Windows System Requirements**

Windows 2000, Windows XP, Windows Vista 1.0 (32 or 64 bit)

CPU: 500+ MHz processor (1 GHz if Vista)

Memory: 512 MB RAM (1 GB if Vista)

Display: 800x600 pixels, 16-bit color display (high color)

Live Video: 2 GHz processor – Memory: 1 GB RAM

Network: 56 kbps or faster Internet connection (Cable or DSL better)

#### **Mac System Requirements**

Mac OSX 10.4.4 - Safari 2.0.1

CPU: G4 700 MHz or Intel-based Mac - Memory: 1 GB RAM

Display color depth: Thousands of colors

Network (for Centra): Broadband Internet connection (Cable or DSL) or Local Area Network

**Centra users:** Sound Card and Headset with attached microphone, or speakers and desktop microphone are required for Centra (Mac users will need a USB microphone or headset). For the most recent Centra technical specifications, please go to <http://elearning.uncc.edu/centra/techspecs.htm>.

NOTE: Instructors may also require students to obtain access to a variety of instructional materials including textbooks, CDs, DVDs, videotapes, audiotapes, and/or other computer software programs. Information on course-specific, required materials is provided to students at the beginning of each semester.