Technology Requirements

It is essential for students enrolled in the MSW DE option to have an up-to-date computer and reliable, high speed access to the internet. For Blackboard Collaborate in particular, students are given authorization to enter the instructor’s virtual classroom and must have a reliable internet connection, installation of Java, updated video and audio drivers, and a microphone or headset wherever they are accessing the classroom.

Students are required to have the following:

- **PC Desktop or Laptop OR Macintosh Desktop or Laptop**
  Not all software and/or courses can be properly accessed on a smartphone or tablet. When required to attend class in Blackboard Collaborate, students should be on a desktop or laptop computer. Please refer to the University of Hawai’i Information Technology Services computer recommendations here: [http://www.hawaii.edu/askus/585](http://www.hawaii.edu/askus/585)

- **Headset** (headphones with microphone)
  Students should invest in a good quality headset ($40+) to allow for best quality sound and contribution to class.

- **Web Camera** – either separate or integrated with computer system

- **Software:**
  - Microsoft Office 2007 or higher
  - Adobe Reader XI
  - Mozilla Firefox OR Safari (latest release)

  UH Mānoa has many free and educational discounts and site licensing programs that reduce the costs for hardware and software. Please see [http://www.hawaii.edu/infotech/getsoftware.html](http://www.hawaii.edu/infotech/getsoftware.html) for more information.

- **Access to the Internet**
  A high-speed and reliable internet connection is a must – most online classes are live (synchronous) and participation in class is required. When required to attend class in Blackboard Collaborate, students are recommended to be hardwired to the internet.