

# **Technology Requirements**

## **Department of Teaching and Learning**

### **Requirement:**

All students enrolled in the undergraduate teacher education program will be required to have with them in class, a mobile technology device that can a) access the Internet wirelessly and b) run Microsoft Office or Open Office.

### **Rationale:**

The faculty of the Department of Teaching and Learning agree that each student having access to the Internet during class will enhance overall learning throughout the teacher education program. Educational research indicates that technology-enhanced lessons can raise the level of learning through various means such as increased motivation and engagement of students, providing a wider variety of task/product choices, and adapting lessons to tap the learning styles/strengths of more students. With this change, the faculty are leading and teaching about technology integration by example.

### **What do we mean by a mobile technology device?**

In basic terms, a laptop, netbook, or Macbook are all an acceptable “device.” The two criteria for mobile devices are that they are compatible with and/or run either Microsoft Office software or Open Office and that they have wireless access to the Internet. iPads, tablets, etc. , if they meet these two criteria, are acceptable. Microsoft Office is available for free download for WSU students.

### **How will we be using these devices in class?**

In class, students will use the mobile devices they bring to research information, collaborate with colleagues on-site and off, develop learning materials, respond to polls/ surveys, and many other tasks.

### **What if I cannot afford a new laptop?**

The Department of Teaching and Learning will make every effort to provide students who are unable to purchase a mobile device, with a suitable alternative. Please contact the department for options.

### **Will I have to bring my mobile device to class every day?**

Officially the answer is yes; however, some instructors might have days when they would not require you to bring your mobile device to class.