To: CS Department

From: Leo Irakliotis

Subject: DRAFT BYOD policy proposal

Date: DRAFT VERSION OF May 27, 2025

During our Spring 2025 faculty retreat, I was assigned the task of drafting a *B*ring *Y*our *O*wn *D*evice (BYOD) policy for CS students. This draft policy outlines the system requirements. The earliest we can implement the policy is beginning in the academic year 2026-27, i.e, with the class of 2031.

The proposed policy here is based on similar BYOD requirements at the following colleges and universities.

- Clemson University

- Florida Institute of Technology

- Northern Illinois University

- Texas A& M (Engineering)

Once we are satisfied with this draft, we must share it with ITS for their input. With ITS support, the proposal will need to work its way through the administration. The timing requirements are stringent, if we wish to enact the policy in AY 26-27.

In anticipation of the policy's approval we must designate which COMP courses will require a device in the classroom. And while we may feel that all COMP courses should, we must select a few critical courses in which BYOD is absolutely essential. For example: COMP 170, 271, 272, and 363 *at the very least*.

Checlist

- Line 24: Ensure o/s and versions are current and correct

1 Bring Your Own Device

Beginning with academic year 2026-27, undergraduate and graduate students in:

- Computer science

- Software engineering

- Cybersecurity

are required to own and use a computer device that meets the specifications of this policy. Students minoring in any of the disciplines above are also expected to comply with this policy.

2 Qualified Devices

A *qualified device* is a system that meets the expectations of this policy, by featuring the following characteristics.

Minimum Requirements

Screen. The device's screen must have at least a 10-inch diagonal, a 16:9 aspect ratio (or comparable aspect ratio), and at least 1204×768 pixels resolution.

Keyboard. The device must have a separate physical keyboard.

Memory. At least 16 GB of memory.

Storage. At least 128 GB of storage.

Neworking. WiFi capable, compatible with IEEE 802.11ac (also known as WiFi-5) or higher.

Battery life. A fully charged system should be able to run for at least 6-7 hours.

Tracking. The device must be trackable so that it can be located if forgotten/stolen.

No older than 6 years.

Portable. The system must be light enough to be carried around campus comfortably and not require excessive space on a classroom desk.

Operating system. A qualified device must be capable of running one of the following operating systems or higher: Windows 11, MacOS Sonoma, Ubuntu 20.04, or Kali 2025.1a.

Software. The system must be capable of running the current version of the following applications: any major browser (Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, or Apple Safari), Microsoft Teams, Microsoft Office (at least Outlook, Word and Powerpoint), and Adobe Acrobat. Furthermore, the system must be capable of supporting these applications and their future updates for the duration of your studies at LUC.

Access to Command Line Interface. The system must have a feature that allows direct access to the command line interface. For example, the Terminal application in MacOS, Windows, and Linux machines.

Optional Requirements

Expandable. The system should be able to connect to various peripherals such as a larger screens (if you have one in your residence), printers, etc.

Protection. The device must be covered by a protection policy (an insurance policy to cover serious repairs and provide replacement in case of major damage).

3   Terms of use

1. Your system must be password protected.

2. Certain courses in your major will be marked as "device required in classroom". For those courses you are expected to arrive to the classroom with your device. The battery charge in the device should be sufficient to last for the duration of the class meeting.

4   Recommended systems and vendors

Disclaimer: The recommendations provided by the Department of Computer Science regarding computer system vendors and warranty options are offered in good faith and are intended to assist students in selecting equipment that meets the technical needs of our curriculum. These suggestions are based on our assessment of current hardware compatibility, performance, and reliability standards relevant to our coursework and instructional tools. The Department of Computer Science has no financial or other pecuniary interest in any of the vendors, manufacturers, or service providers mentioned. We do not receive compensation, discounts, or other benefits in exchange for these recommendations. Students are under no obligation to purchase from any particular vendor or select a specific product or service. All purchasing decisions should be made based on individual needs, preferences, and circumstances, as long as the device meets the mimimum specifications stated earlier. The department cannot guarantee the performance, pricing, or service quality of any third-party provider and assumes no liability for equipment malfunctions, warranty disputes, or service issues that may arise.

TBD: recommended configurations; recommendation for refurbished systems from New Egg, etc. This section must be revised **annually** and remain versioned in the document.

5   Absolutely not acceptable systems

Following is a list of systems and devices that do not meet the requirements.

1. E-ink devices (e.g., reMarkable)

2. Smart phones. Typically their screens are smaller than the required minimum size.

3. Desktop systems. They are not portable.

4. Older systems. Such computers may not be equipped to run the latest version of software needed for the classes.

5. Older operating systems: Windows 10 or lower, MacOS 13 or lower, Linux demarkation version.

6. Chromebooks.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is the purchase of a qualified device covered by financial aid?

    Yes.

Are tablets like iPad or Microsoft Surface allowed

    Yes, as long as they meet the minimun requirements in this policy and especially the screen size, keyboard, and device age specifications.

Q   Answer.

Q   Answer.

Q   Answer.