

Technology requirements for online students

Our online learning programmes promise the flexibility to study around your commitments, as well as the latest digital techniques to immerse you in the content and connect you with your peers and lecturers.

Hardware and software

All your programme content will be delivered through Moodle – the University’s online learning platform. For students, it serves as a central hub for classes, assignments, discussions, grades and communication with Lecturers. It therefore goes without saying that you will want a reliable laptop and a strong internet connection.

While a desktop PC is perfectly acceptable, one of the benefits of a portable device is the freedom to study wherever you are. Using a laptop will help you keep to up to date whilst on the go, so you won’t have to worry about falling behind.

System requirements

Moodle acts as a **one-stop hub** for all programme-related information. Students can find **lecture notes, assignments, grades, and announcements** in one place. The **dashboard** clearly shows upcoming deadlines and recent feedback, helping students stay on track. Be sure that you have the following in place before you join:

1. Device Requirements

You can access Moodle on **almost any modern device**, but here’s what’s recommended for the best experience:

Desktop or Laptop

- **Operating System:**
 - o Windows 10 or later
 - o macOS 10.14 (Mojave) or later
 - o Most modern Linux distributions
- **Processor:** Dual-core 1.5 GHz or higher

- **Memory (RAM):** Minimum 4 GB (8 GB recommended for multitasking)
- **Storage:** At least 500 MB free for downloads, assignments, and cached files

Mobile Devices

- **Android:** Version 8.0 (Oreo) or later
- **iOS:** Version 15.1 or later
- You can access Moodle via mobile browser.
- Or use the [Goldsmiths Student App](#) (available on Google Play and App Store).

2. Internet Requirements

- **Connection:** Stable broadband or Wi-Fi connection
 - o Minimum: 512 kbps download speed
 - o Recommended: 1.5 Mbps or higher (especially for video streaming or live sessions)
- **Data Usage:** If accessing via mobile network, note that downloading resources and videos can use significant data.

3. Browser Requirements

Moodle works best on **modern, up-to-date browsers**.

Supported browsers include:

- **Google Chrome** (latest version — **most recommended**)
- **Mozilla Firefox** (latest version)
- **Safari** (for macOS/iOS users)
- **Microsoft Edge** (Chromium-based version)

Not recommended:

- Internet Explorer (no longer supported)
- Older browser versions, which may cause layout or functionality issues

Browser Settings to Enable:

- **Cookies and JavaScript** must be enabled
- **Pop-up blockers** should be disabled for Moodle's URL (to allow quizzes, file uploads, etc.)
- **Cache clearing** occasionally helps prevent loading errors

4. Multimedia & Plugins

Some Moodle courses may use media or interactive content that needs:

- **Audio/Video player:** HTML5-compatible (built into most modern browsers)
- **PDF viewer:** Built-in or external (like Adobe Acrobat Reader)
- **Office software:** Microsoft Office, Google Docs, or LibreOffice for assignments
- **Optional plugins** (if required by your course): Java, or specific simulation tools

5. Goldsmiths Student Mobile App Requirements

For the **App**:

- Requires Android 8.0+ or iOS 15.1+.
- Works best on devices with at least **2 GB RAM** and **500 MB free storage**.

6. Security and Privacy Tips

To ensure smooth and safe use:

- Always use a **secure, updated browser**.
- Make sure your **antivirus software** is active.
- Avoid using public Wi-Fi for submitting assignments or logging in.
- Desktop version of a modern browser (e.g. Google Chrome, Internet Explorer)
 - In our experience, Chrome is the most stable browser for using Adobe Connect, especially on the Mac.
- Ideally use a wired, broadband connection. If Wi-Fi is all you have, be aware that you may experience drop-outs if others are using the same Wi-Fi.

- o Make sure you have a plan B at the ready – whether that’s free Wi-Fi at your local coffee shop or library, hot-spotting your mobile data, a dongle, or even a pay-as-you-go shared office space (for example, WeWork). A back-up plan can pay dividends when you lose your internet connection.
- Telephone with headset or headphones for Audio. (Note that open speakers will not work; we would get too much feedback.)
- Webcam
- Also, you will be required to use Microsoft Office suite for this module; specifically, Word, PowerPoint, and Excel.

If you are having trouble logging in, you will need to speak to the [IT Service Desk](#). They will help reset your password.