Hope you are enjoying the cooler weather and are looking forward to the holidays. Our second cohort started September 5, 2000 so we now have 46 graduate students in the online masters program.

Many of you have asked good questions about the program. In our newsletters, I will try to address the issues. One question that continues to surface is computer specifications. I don't know what the "specs" will be for Cohort III but I am happy to share with you the specifications for Cohort II which started in September. A reliable Internet Service Provider (ISP) is critical for this program. A simple and recognizable email address is also important. Note that we are UNABLE to support the Macintosh computer!!

COMPUTER SPECIFICATIONS FOR COHORT II

The purpose of this email is to alert you to some of the technical requirements of the CD&S On-Line Master's Degree Program. We've set these requirements in order to enable you to easily and quickly access all the course materials.

REQUIRED OPERATING SYSTEM: Microsoft Windows 98 or NT 4.0 (We will not be able to support Macintosh operating systems.)

MINIMUM HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS
- 400 MHz Pentium or comparable processor
- 128MB of RAM
- 4GB hard drive
- 56.6 Kbps modem
- 16-bit sound card with good quality speakers
- 16x CD-ROM drive

INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDER REQUIREMENTS
- Internet access from a reliable ISP with live technical support and a 56K or faster dial-up connection.
- A personal email account

SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS: The following applications will be provided to you in the next two weeks. Please note that we will NOT be able to support other applications or other versions of these applications (e.g., Microsoft Internet Explorer, Microsoft Office 97).
- Microsoft Office 2000
- Netscape Communicator 4.75
- RealPlayer 8
- Adobe Acrobat Reader 4.0

SOFTWARE RECOMMENDATIONS: We strongly recommend that you have an antivirus software, such as Symantec Norton Antivirus 2000 for Windows.

FAX REQUIREMENTS: You will need to the capability to receive faxes via either of the following two options:

Option 1: Use a personal fax machine (located at home or at school or anywhere that you have easy access to) with a dedicated phone line
Option 2: Use the free on-line fax service at www.efax.com.

COMPUTER CONFIGURATION REQUIREMENTS: The final requirement is that you set your computer screen resolution to 800 by 600 pixels at a minimum.

Please follow the steps below to reset your computer resolution:
1. Click on the "Start" button on your desktop.
2. Select the "Settings" option then click on the "Control Panel" option.
3. A new window should pop-up. Double-click on the "Display" icon.
4. Click on the "Settings" tab.
5. In the portion of the window entitled "Screen area," verify that the screen resolution is set to 800 by 600 pixels. If this is the case, click on the "Cancel" button and skip Step 6.
6. If the screen resolution is not 800 by 600 pixels, slide the bar to the position in which the screen reads "800 by 600 pixels." Click on the "OK" button and follow the instructions provided in the prompts. You may need to restart your computer in order for the new screen resolution to take effect.

CD&S Technical Support
cdsadmin-l@csun.edu
818-677-7265

We don't have the dates as of yet for sending applications. I will let you know as soon as that information is given to me. As always, contact me for further information by email or by telephone (818-677-2880).

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