UW-Eau Claire
CSD Online Grad Program
Technology Requirements

Students seeking enrollment in the UWEC CSD online graduate program must consider themselves as having a high degree of potential for success with the technical aspects of an online graduate program (e.g., hardware, software, internet applications, etc.). Furthermore, candidates must be motivated to take a lead role in problem-solving and troubleshooting technological challenges as they arise including working with the UWEC Helpdesk and accessing his/her own supports/resources. The following document outlines the technical requirements for enrolling in the CSD online graduate program at the University of Wisconsin- Eau Claire.

- Access to Microsoft Office 2010 or 2013: Throughout the course, Microsoft Office Suite applications including PowerPoint and Word will be utilized and thus Microsoft Office is required.—***Access to the essential Microsoft products is provided FREE by UWEC through Office 365. Students can utilize this application throughout the duration of their grad program.***

- Internet Browser for Canvas: In order to access Canvas, an Internet browser is required. Examples of Internet browsers include Chrome and Firefox and can be downloaded for free from the Internet.

- High-Speed Internet Connection: An Internet service provider is required. If available in your area, a satellite, DSL, or cable modem connection is recommended. Using a dial-up Internet connection will not support some of the online grad program applications and is highly discouraged.

- Ability to Playback Videos: Being able to playback videos throughout the course will be important. Examples of video playback software include VLC Player, iTunes, Windows Media Player, and Quicktime, all of which can be downloaded from the Internet for free.

- Video Conferencing Software: Being able to video conference with the faculty and classmates will be required at times during the online graduate program. Online platforms like Whereby, Skype, or Google Chat can be downloaded for free from the Internet and will meet this requirement. Use of higher-end platforms (that usually come with a cost), such as Zoom, will be used by faculty, but not be a required purchase for students.

- Screen Capture Software: Online graduate students will be required to create screencast productions at different points and to satisfy different requirements and

competencies throughout their program. Free, online applications will be sufficient for this purpose including iSpring Free, Screencastomatic, and Educreations (for the iPad).

- <u>USB Headset/Mic Recommended:</u> In order to properly record voiceovers and to participate in video conferencing a USB headset/mic is required.

- <u>Mobile Device Usage:</u> All CSD online graduate students will need access to a mobile device for generating and sharing certain specific course/clinical work/requirements. Many mobile devices like the iPad, Kindle Fire, or Microsoft Surface may meet the needs of the technical requirements for the program. Check with the Graduate Coordinator to see if your device (or one you can access) will suffice.

- <u>Scanner or Mobile Device App for Scanning</u>: Many times during the academic and clinical experiences, students will be required to scan and upload or email items. Convenient access to scanning is critical.

- <u>Hardware for Printing</u>: Many times during the academic and clinical experience, the graduate student will need to print forms or other documents. Reasonable access to printing will be a necessity.

- <u>Optional: Dual-Monitor Display</u>: While not a program requirement, having a way to manage a dual-monitor display at your home work station comes as a high-level recommendation of previous online graduate students. Consider investing a couple hundred dollars in an additional monitor for your home office to make this set-up work.