

Significant aspects of learning for all students will be facilitated through various forms of technological media over the course of the degree program. In a distance learning format, technology and the associated equipment should be thought of as a “required textbook” that is necessary to complete the coursework. We strongly suggest that you have reliable and steady access to the internet, specifically through Broadband access that will allow you to participate more seamlessly in electronic classroom forums, video conferencing, podcasts, chat rooms, and Populi. There will also be times when you will be exchanging documents with fellow students and faculty and using software such as Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.

### Minimum Specifications:

- Windows 7, 8, or 10; or OS X 10.10, 10.11, or 10.12;
- Access to high-speed internet (DSL/Cable/T1);
- Sound card;
- Internet browser setup to accept cookies and to show the newest version of a page. Firefox, version 47 or greater; or Internet Explorer, version 11 or greater; or Safari, version 9.0 or greater; or Chrome, version 50 or greater; or Microsoft Edge, version 35 or greater; or equivalent;
- Microsoft Media Player, VLC Media Player, or iTunes; and
- Disabled pop-up blocking software.

### Recommended Specifications:

All of those items above PLUS the following:

- Cable modem
- Screen resolution: 1024 x 768.
- Software Specifications:
  - Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), iWorks (Pages, Numbers, Keynote, or compatible products such as OpenOffice or NeoOffice.
  - Podcast software such as Windows Media Player, VLC Media Player, iTunes, or equivalent.
- Conferencing:
  - Students should explore various telephone packages that will allow for free long- distance calling. We expect that some courses will require approximately two hours of conference calls per week plus additional monthly conference calls on the weekend.
  - Video conferencing – Meadville Lombard expects that video conferencing will be used as a teaching strategy over the course of your study. If you are making a computer purchase, we suggest you consider choosing hardware that includes a built-in video camera and microphone as part of the package, or purchase an external webcam and microphone. Students should expect to use various video-conferencing tools such as Skype, Fuze, and Google Chat.