CSOL Technical Requirements

High–speed internet connection is needed (DSL or better)

Browser: Firefox is the recommended browser for use with Blackboard on both the Mac and PC. The Final Release Channel of Firefox is listed as certified or compatible with Blackboard. Safari (Mac), Internet Explorer (Windows), and Chrome (Mac/Windows) are also supported browsers. Blackboard lists the most current browser compatibility information on its site, here.

Microsoft Office is required. Use this link for instructions on how to download Microsoft Office 365.

Computer Specifications: USD CSOL courses require students to have access to a Windows Operating System (OS) laptop with administrative rights for classroom labs and projects. Processor speed must be a minimum of 1.5GHz to adequately support several concurrent virtual machines (VM). RAM needs to be 16GB minimum and ample secondary storage of 500 GB (preferable SSD) and hard disk drive. A USD port is highly recommended to support thumb drives and external HDDs and CD/DVD drive is required to facilitate ISO archival for virtual machine OS.

Windows: Leading security professional virtualization platforms are predominantly Windows based. All three of the top virtualization systems (VirtualBox, VMware and Hyper-V) are optimally designed for Windows. While we recognize the prevalence of Apple computers across development and design areas, it is necessary to choose a standardized design platform that accommodates the greatest degree of software utility and class time efficiency. OSX and Apple/Mac computers are not acceptable computers for the MSCSOL program.