Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Information

Should I bring a computer, mobile device, media streaming box, game console, or other Internet enabled device to campus?

Incoming students and/or their parents frequently wonder what electronic devices they should bring to college. While YSU has approximately 20 open-access computer labs (both Mac OS and Windows-based), including labs in larger residence halls, Kilcawley Center, and Maag Library, students frequently find it useful to have a computer, mobile device, media streaming box, game console, or other Internet enabled device such as a “Smart TV” or Internet-enabled Blu-Ray player at college. For students who wish to bring their own devices to campus, YSU offers two methods in which devices can access the YSU Network.

**YSU Wireless Network (Wireless)**

YSU has deployed wireless internet access across much of the YSU campus. The wireless access points require a wireless radio supporting the 802.11a/g/n specification. These access points broadcast on the ‘ysuwireless’ and ‘attwifi’ networks.

- ‘ysuwireless’ is available to YSU Faculty, Staff and Students and uses the WPA2 Enterprise authentication method to authenticate users with their MyYSU Directory Account name and password
- ‘attwifi’ is available to guests of YSU as well as YSU Faculty, Staff and Students and uses a web browser to authenticate users – access can be purchased for $1.99 a day, but this network can be used for no cost by YSU Faculty, Staff and Students as well as anyone with an AT&T account

Please note that game consoles and media streaming boxes such as the Xbox 360, PS3, Nintendo Wii U, Apple TV, and Roku must be connected via a **wired connection** because they currently do not support the authentication methods used by ‘ysuwireless’ or ‘attwifi’. See the section below on wired networking for more information on this.

**YSU ResNet Network (Wired)**

In addition to the wireless network, all residence hall rooms and suites are connected to the campus backbone. This high-speed network connection supports standard 10/100/1000 RJ-45 Ethernet ports. If your computer or game console does not have an Ethernet port (i.e. the Nintendo Wii U or MacBook Air), a USB-to-Ethernet adapter can usually be purchased for that device to allow for wired connectivity. Students should also bring a CAT-5 or CAT-6 patch cord.
cable in order to connect to the Ethernet jack in their residence area. A 6-foot cable should be sufficient for most students. These items can be purchased at just about any store carrying computer components. Game consoles and media devices with Internet capability will also need to be brought to the Tech Desk to get their MAC address information so that the device can be allowed on the YSU network. The only exceptions to this are as follows:

- The Apple TV can use ‘ysuwireless’ but it still needs to be brought to the Tech Desk to copy the proper configuration profile to it
- Smart TVs that are too large to be brought to the Tech Desk can be added to the database as long as we have a Name, Dorm, Room Number, and Y00 number for the student as well as the MAC address of the television

**A Brief On Network Security**

Students connecting personal computers or other devices may be required to install mandatory software packages or configure their devices to adhere to security protocols currently implemented on the YSU Network. Installation of the software packages and security configurations are necessary for the protection of the YSU Network and its users. When connecting devices to the YSU Network, the following steps should always be taken to protect the information on your device:

- Set a password or lock code/pattern
- Make sure that antivirus software is installed, updated, and regularly run (if applicable)
- Make sure automatic updates for the Operating System and its applications are enabled and working properly (if applicable) or that these updates are installed on a regular basis
- Turn on device encryption if your device has sensitive information on it that should not be accessed if the device was lost or stolen

**Please note:** Routers (wired and wireless), switches, hubs, access points, bridges or any other devices meant for splitting or sharing an Internet connection are PROHIBITED. This also includes the use of software packages that perform Network Address Translation (NAT) that may or may not be included with your operating system. Additionally, any users found to be not in compliance with this may be blocked from accessing the YSU network.

Questions regarding hardware/software requirements, network usage/locations, installations/configurations, and logon/password information can be directed to the YSU Tech Desk at 330-941-1595 (x1595 on campus) or techdesk@ysu.edu.