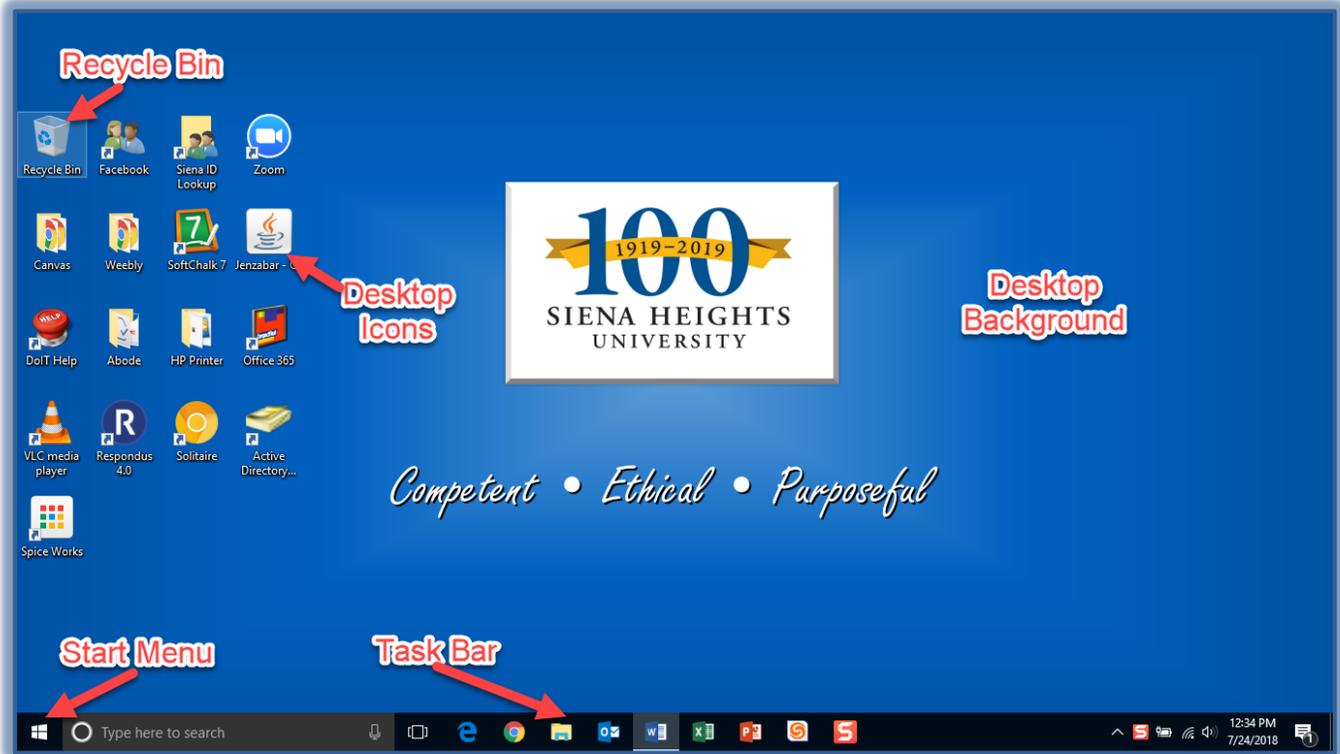# Windows Desktop

The Desktop is the first thing that is seen when the computer is turned on. It is also the home base, the area that is displayed after all programs have been closed. It is the initial display on the computer screen on which windows, icons, menus, and dialog boxes appear. It is used to access disk drives, network drives, files, and other resources such as printers or the Recycle Bin. The most common Windows 10 Desktop elements are described below.

Element	Description
Desktop Background	† This is what is displayed when you first log into Windows. † The displayed background is the default Windows 10 background. † This may be changed by the computer manufacturer or when Windows 10 is installed.
Desktop Icon	† Depending on how Windows was configured, there could be from one to seven icons on the desktop. † An icon is used to identify every type of item on your computer, such as a file, a program, or a folder. † There are six standard desktop icons that represent Windows 10 elements. † The display of these icons can be turned on or off depending on your preferences. † The only icon that is displayed on the desktop by default is the one for the Recycle Bin.

Element	Description

Start Menu	✝ This menu is the central link to the programs, management tools, and file storage structure for the computer.
	✝ To open the Start Menu, do one of the following:
	  ✦ Click the Start button which appears at the left end of the Windows Taskbar.
	  ✦ Press the Windows logo key on the left or right side of the space bar.

Taskbar	✝ The Taskbar is displayed at the bottom of the Window. ✝ It is used to start programs such as Word and Excel. ✝ It is also used to switch among open programs and open documents. ✝ The documents for each program will be grouped together. ✝ They can be displayed by moving the mouse pointer over the icon. ✝ The Taskbar can be customized to meet individual needs.