

School of Art & Design

## Portfolio advice

### Fine Art BA (Hons)



Sharing your portfolio is an opportunity for you to showcase your skills, personality and potential. It should be a collection of your work that demonstrates how you and your creativity have developed. It's also an opportunity to make sure we have the right expertise and resource to support you during your time at university.

We understand your portfolio will be unique to you, but here's a handy checklist of things you should consider when preparing your portfolio.

**Approximately 12-15 pieces of your most recent work.** Be selective, showcasing the pieces of work which you feel are particularly relevant to this area of study, whilst best highlight your skills and interests. Your selection of work should demonstrate your enthusiasm and ability in art, so that we can see who you are and what you do.

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**Your working process.** We'd love to see evidence of your working process. The best way for you to showcase this is by documenting a couple of pages of your most relevant sketchbooks or working drawings, which relate to specific sections in your portfolio.

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**A variety of creative work.** Please select a range of work which shows us who you are and what you are interested in, as well as showing a range of your approaches to looking at and making art. We'll be looking for a variety of creative pieces including painting, drawing, mark-making, photography, life drawing, mixed media work and digital work.

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**Written piece.** Written piece. Please include a short, typed statement (150 – 250 words), which you have written describing how you engage with contemporary art. Let us know what galleries you visit, what magazines and websites you read, and any other way that you demonstrate your curiosity for contemporary practice. Tell us about the artists, exhibitions and other sources that you feel have influenced your work.

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**Showcase your passion.** Showcase your passion. One of the most important things to remember whilst preparing your portfolio is to fill it with passion, showing us your potential as a future artist. Show us where you are taking risks, experimenting, exploring, focusing, questioning – how you are going beyond what you have been told to do.

## What are we looking for?

- A quality and range of visual concepts, and level of innovative thinking.
- Good presentation skills, and the ability to visualise ideas.
- Your ability to handle a variety of technologies, materials and processes.
- Adaptability, curiosity and open-mindedness.
- Your willingness to experiment in a range of visual media.
- Self-motivated work which shows your passion for the subject.
- Evidence of questioning and risk taking.

## Format

- A digital portfolio in PDF or PowerPoint format (15 pages/slides).
- If you have any moving image work, this can be showcased by embedding the weblink in your portfolio pages.
- Your portfolio should be submitted as a single unzipped file not exceeding 10mb.
- Your written statement can be uploaded as a separate file.

## Frequently asked questions

Q – Can I submit my work as single files like JPEGs or PNGs?

A – No, work must be arranged in presentation software so we can see it in the same order you would show us as if you were presenting it yourself. Your written statement can be uploaded as a separate file.



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