

SCHOOL OF ART & DESIGN

PORTFOLIO ADVICE



BA (HONS) DECORATIVE ARTS

Showing your portfolio at interview is an opportunity for you to showcase your skills, interests, style and personality. 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 15 pieces of work. If you are applying to us from an Art and Design Foundation Diploma, BTEC Extended Diploma or HND course, please do not include A-level or AS-level work in your portfolio; it is the work from your current course which we are most interested in looking at.

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 art and design skills. We'll be looking for a variety of creative pieces including design, photography, life drawing, mixed media work and digital work (as applicable and relevant to your area of study).

Your working process. We'd love to see evidence of working process. The best way for you to showcase this is by bringing your two most relevant sketchbooks and any working drawings which relate to specific projects in your portfolio.

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 designer / maker.

A written piece. Please bring a piece of writing in the form of an essay or report, completed as part of your studies.

A visual diary or scrapbook. If you keep anything that demonstrates your art and design interests, please bring it along too.

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.

This information is for those applying to join this course in September 2019.

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- Your ability to handle a variety of technologies, materials and processes.
- Your willingness to experiment in a range of visual media.
- Good observational skills in drawing.

Format

There is no need to window-mount the work, or spend money on mount board. We are happy for the work to be float-mounted onto plain white cartridge paper or thin white board.

Frequently asked questions

Q - Can I bring physical objects / 3D work?

A - Yes, if your work is easily transferable. If not, we suggest you taking some photographs and include them in your portfolio.

Q – Do I need to bring along specific types of equipment, computer hardware or software?

A – Not at all – just your portfolio and yourself! If you have any particular requirements and would like to bring extra equipment with you in order to demonstrate your portfolio work, please let us know when you confirm your interview with us.

Q – Where can I get some more advice on creating my portfolio?

A – We hold regular live chats throughout the year where you can log in and ask current decorative arts students questions about producing your portfolio. Visit www.ntu.ac.uk/art-livechat to view our upcoming live chat dates. Alternatively, you can email art.ug-queries@ntu.ac.uk with any questions.

We look forward to meeting you and having a chat about your work. To start getting more of an idea of what life as a student within the School of Art & Design is like, browse our social channels.



Facebook @ntuart
Twitter @ntuartanddesign
Instagram @ntuart

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