

School of Art & Design

Portfolio advice

Fashion Design

BA (Hons)



Image: Gwen Harris, BA (Hons) Fashion Design

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. Be selective and showcase a range of work which shows us who you are and what you are interested in, as well as demonstrating a range of art and design skills. 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.

Variety of creative work. This might include creative research, broad cultural references, concept development, design development, photography, life drawing, mixed media work and digital work, as applicable and relevant to your area of study. Due to the fact that some applicants have worked on more design projects than others, your focus may vary.

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

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

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

This information is for those applying to join this course in September 2020. This information is correct at the time of printing. Nottingham Trent University reserves the right to change this information without prior notice or justification.

What are we looking for?

- A quality and range of visual concepts, and your level of innovative thinking.
- Good presentation skills, and the ability to visualise ideas.
- 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

Please make sure your work is on plain white cartridge paper or thin white board. There is no need to window-mount the work, or spend money on mount board.

Frequently asked questions

Q – Should the work in my digital portfolio differ to my physical portfolio?

A – You should be selective of the work you bring in your portfolio, which may of course include samples used in your digital portfolio. You may wish to add to your digital portfolio with any new pieces you've created since.

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

A - Yes, if your work is easily transferable. If not, we suggest taking some photographs and including 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 fashion design 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.



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