Folios

Your pocket guide of inspiration and handy tips
Did you know...

Most tertiary education providers require you to submit a folio of your work if you are applying to study a creative arts or design course?

It is a good idea to start thinking about this early to allow time to develop a folio of work that you can use as part of your university submission. This guide is designed to help you put together your folio with handy tips from our Art and Performance team.

What is a folio?

A folio is a collection of your personal work. It gives an insight into your creative thinking processes and the meaning behind your work. It showcases your passions, technical skills and diversity as an artist.

Prepare

Research your interest areas. Search far and wide. Explore galleries and museums, books or magazines, watch films and live performances, take photos or discover online platforms.
Find
Investigate what inspires you. Select ideas, materials and techniques and source good examples of your favourite artists, photographers or designers.

What are universities looking for?
Your folio should be a true reflection of you and the journey you have taken to get to this point. Explain the meaning behind your work to provide purpose and context. Your folio doesn’t need to contain masterpieces, but reveal a process that reflects imagination, curiosity and passion. Jot down some thoughts.

Jot down some ideas

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Include

Include work in your folio that excites and inspires you. Your folio should be a true reflection of you and the journey you have taken to get to this point.

What artforms interest you?
E.g. hand drawings, computer aided drawings, paintings, graphic design, photographs, digital images, models, sculptures, video, scripting, short stories, 2D and 3D Flash animation.

Communicate

Explain the meaning behind your work to provide purpose and context. Your folio doesn’t need to contain masterpieces, but reveal a process that reflects imagination, curiosity and passion.

How do you communicate your creative process?
Handy tips

What do I need to include in my folio submission?
Tell us about your passions in a 250-word statement and be as direct as you can, for example:
'I love watching the film ‘Selma’ because of the art direction so this has influenced my desire to take photographs that are set ups using make-up and costumes. I love the photos of Tracey Moffatt because of the way she draws in personal narratives and storytelling through her work.'
Upload between six to eight images (following the online instructions) that best represent you as a creative. Consider examples of the following for each course:

**Bachelor of Creative Arts (Visual Arts) & Bachelor of Creative Arts (Photography)**
Artwork/images developed by you. They can be a series concentrating on a particular theme or concept, or individual images and a variety of mediums.

**Bachelor of Design (Visual Communication)**
Logo design/branding, typography, layout, illustration, photography, 3D form, web design.

**Bachelor of Design (3D Animation)**
Character generation, digital illustration, general drawing, motion design, 3D form.

**Bachelor of Design (Digital Technologies)**
Digital technology product design, application design, user interface, user experience, mobile app design, interactive experience, VR/AR/game design, digital illustration, web design, motion design and 3D form.

*These don’t need to be masterpieces but reveal a process that reflects imagination, curiosity and passion. These works can be in-progress as well. We are looking for passion, engagement and evidence of creative thinking. Your work will be viewed by a selection committee, who are excited to see what drives and inspires you.*

What happens after I submit the folio?
You will receive a confirmation email with a summary of what you have submitted. Your folio will be reviewed by our selection committee. Formal advice of an offer will be received through VTAC.

Is submitting a portfolio the only entry requirement?
No. Applicants must also satisfy tertiary entrance requirements*. 

What is an advisory letter?
An advisory letter provides an indication of whether you have met the portfolio requirements. This means that Deakin University is prepared to make you an offer for this course provided that you also satisfy tertiary entrance requirements*.

Do I need to attend a portfolio presentation interview?
No interview is required.

Can I submit my folio for more than one course?
If you are applying for more than one course, you will need to submit a folio and submission statement for each course.

How do I submit my folio?

1. Visit the portfolio applications page at deakin.edu.au/portfolioapplications
2. Select the course you are interested in
3. Read the submission instructions and deadlines carefully
4. Start your folio entry

Have more questions relating to folio submissions?
Visit deakin.edu.au/portfolio-applications
Email us at scca-students@deakin.edu.au

*To satisfy tertiary entrance requirements, applicants must have satisfactorily completed VCE and units 3&4 of English sequentially in the same calendar year or, for TAFE courses, equivalent senior secondary completion such as Senior VCE or literacy requirements as stated in VET Training packages/curriculum. All applicants must also meet the minimum entrance requirements of 50 ATAR for admission to Deakin University. For more information on the Admission Criteria and Selection Policy visit policy.deakin.edu.au/www.current.php?id=00035. Applications for Deakin programs must be made via VTAC. For international applicants, applications can be made through Deakin International.
Deakin helped my career by giving me the skills and craft to think beyond boundaries and encourage my creative thinking as a powerful source of problem solving. I can work within and around limitation, but mostly I have an in-depth understanding of the world and how it can be effected.

Erin Dickinson
Bachelor of Creative Arts (Visual Arts) graduate, Deakin University
Practising Artist

Next steps
Search for opportunities to learn more. Participate in workshops, listen to others and discover your future possibilities.

Pencil in

To find out more about Deakin’s courses in creative arts and the folio entry requirements, attend one of our Creative Arts Folio exploration evenings. Visit deakin.edu.au/create to find out more.
deakin.edu.au/create

Cover artwork:
Jake Jalsovec
Best Alien Plant Shot
2018
Bachelor of Creative Arts (Photography) student

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