



GRAY'S SCHOOL OF ART Application Advice Sheet

An important part of application to Gray's is the portfolio. The interview is the second and complementary aspect of application.

Application to stage 1 of a course: all students who have the appropriate supporting qualifications or who will be sitting them before entry, will be interviewed with their folio.

Application to stage 2 – 4: all applicants will need to provide a mini portfolio for selection for interview. Not all students applying for advanced entry will be offered an interview.

What does the portfolio show?

It shows your interests and abilities and it shows your excitement and commitment for Art and Design.

Here's some basic guidelines on how we look at the folio. Further support will be available through our Applicants days.

- **Visual research**

(your ability to investigate and explore a particular topic)

- **Idea exploration and development** (your ability to generate and develop ideas and communicate the context of those ideas.)

- **Process and Materials**

(your ability to apply process, media and materials within your work)

- **Personal and contextual awareness** (your ability to identify areas of personal interest in Art & Design)

- **Visual Research**

We want to see how you find out about your subject matter and what questions your research asks.

This could be shown through a combination of drawings, photographs, video, models, CAD and material explorations.

Here are a list of words that could characterize the approach taken. **Analytical / Objective / Interpretive / Inquisitive / Searching / Methodical / Expressive**

- **Idea exploration and development**

We want to see how you generate and develop ideas from your visual research. It is important that we see how they progress from the starting point right through to the conclusion of your ideas / project.

This could be shown through a combination of drawings, development worksheets, sketchbook pages, photographs, video, models, CAD and material explorations.

- If you are working predominantly in 3d making

processes you would be advised to document that through a photographic approach to show both your development and investigation of process.

Here are a list of words that could characterize the approach taken. **Analytical / Explorative / Synthesize Experimentation / Progression / Selection / Context**

- **Process and Materials**

We want to see how you explore your use of and range of media and materials.

This could be shown through both 2 and 3 dimensional making processes in their broadest sense.

- Remember to photograph work if working in 3 dimensions or on a large scale.

Here are a list of words that could characterize the approach taken. **Explorative / Experimental / Selective / Inventive / Application within Context**

- **Personal and contextual awareness**

We would like to see and hear about your personal interests in Art & Design.

Your sketchbook will allow you to document exhibitions you have visited; perhaps you are motivated /inspired by the work of specific artists and designers. Equally we are sure that you would like to share your art & design work / sketchbook work that you work on in your own time.

Here is a list of words that could characterize work. **Contemporary / Individual / Enquiring / On-going / Independent**

Advanced Entry

Applications to stages 2 - 4

Applicants applying to stages 2 - 4 will have *normally* developed their folio within a college environment and will be more aware of the demands placed on a specialist folio. These applicants will show a far greater degree of specialist folio work pertinent to the course they are applying for. In the first instance we will request these applicants to put together a mini-portfolio.

On the basis of this portfolio we will identify those that will be offered an interview. Not all advanced entry applicants will be interviewed. Interview is dependent on the mini portfolio

1st stage of selection.

• **Advanced Entry mini-portfolio guidelines**

The mini-portfolio guidelines follow the principles of the guidelines identified in the general portfolio advice. These are:

- **Visual research**
- **Idea exploration and development**
- **Process and Materials**
- **Personal and contextual awareness**

You are requested to identify **15** images from your folio that represent these key elements.

- Please upload these images via a flickr account.
- Please make sure your images are high quality; flickr allows you to upload images of

up to 150MB. Make sure that you read the privacy settings carefully. We will ask you to share the images with a designated email account at Gray's once you have organized your mini- folio as follows:

- Please title each image and provide a brief description. You may wish to identify groups of images that should be seen in the context of one another e.g.

A1, A2, A3, B1, B2 etc. These may refer to specific projects or singular items

- Please organize your 15 images into a 'set'. Please title this 'set' as 'Mini Folio / Gray's / Course title / entry stage / your name'. Therefore the title of your 'set' could read '*Mini-Folio / Gray's / Painting / stage 2 / Joe Bloggs*'

Once you have organized your work into a 'set' and titled it, you are now ready to share your mini-folio with our admissions contact at Gray's.

- You need to share your mini folio with a.young@rgu.ac.uk
- flickr will ask you to 'enter a message'. Your message should include the following details...

- 1) Your full name
- 2) Your email address for us to confirm receipt of your flickr mini-portfolio.
- 3) The course you are applying for and the stage of entry

4) Your UCAS application form number

5) You must state in writing that the work that you have uploaded is all your own work. Once you have included all details 1- 5 you can press 'send'. Upon receipt we will confirm within 2-3 working days that we have received your mini- portfolio. If we do not, it may be because you have not provided us with your chosen email address, or an incorrect address. Please make sure that you contact a.young@rgu.ac.uk if you have not received a receipt.

You will have one more opportunity to re-send your mini-portfolio.

PLEASE NOTE IT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT THAT YOU MAKE SURE THAT YOU PROVIDE ALL THE INFORMATION REQUIRED IN 1),2),3),4),and 5).

If you are successful in being invited to interview, it will be expected that you bring along the actual work that you photographed and uploaded to your flickr mini-portfolio. We do understand that you may not be able to bring large or 3 dimensional work to interview. In this instance it would be advisable to bring a larger range of photographic evidence to interview.

- **All mini portfolios should be submitted to the School for the deadline 22nd February 2013.**

Informal interview / Discussion with your portfolio

As we are interviewing you it is important that you know your portfolio well and that you are able and comfortable talking about your work.

It might be worthwhile practicing talking to somebody with your portfolio for about 10 minutes to see if you can articulate your thinking in a way that helps your visual submission. Don't worry about rehearsing this but it may help you think on your feet when faced with an interview situation.

At Gray's the "interviews" are very informal and chatty (some applicants have even said they like them). It is important to remember it's the portfolio we are interviewing and we see you as a guide in that process. Also remember that we will ask you questions about what artists and designers that you are interested in and why you enjoy their work.

We are still interested in you as a person so be prepared to talk about any interest you may have mentioned in your UCAS statement or that might come up through discussing projects in your portfolio.

CONTACT DETAILS

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