

HOW TO CREATE A PORTFOLIO

Why do you need a portfolio?

Students applying for a creative degree need a portfolio to showcase their work, passion and interests. A portfolio isn't just documenting your artistic journey so far, it's a statement of your creative intent.

What a university may expect to see in your portfolio

- **Your ideas** – You can explore a multitude of routes.
- **Confidence** – Talent is an attitude.
- **Notebooks, diaries, sketchbooks, artists books, zines.**
- **Your body of work** - This could be objects, images, sound work, videos, web platforms, performance, etc. It may be presented physically or digitally and should contain no more than 20 pieces.
- **An example of how you express yourself through words** (essays, blogs, vlogs, rap, poetry etc.)
- **A piece from your body of work that best represents who you are now.**

Top Tips

- **Be selective and reflective** - Curate the story you want to tell us.
- **Show your versatility!** - Include a broad range of your skills
- **Showcase your strengths**
- **Prioritise quality over quantity**
- **Put your work in the order that you want to talk about it**

Get in touch

Email hello@aup.ac.uk

Call +44 (0)1752 203434

Whatsapp +44 (0)7722 744184

The 3 C's

- You may not have work to put into your portfolio yet. Follow these 3 helpful steps to create interesting pieces for your portfolio.
- **Creativity:** Get creative! Experiment with new techniques and processes.
- **Collaboration:** Collaborating with another artist is a great way of making interesting pieces.
- **Communication:** Communication is a key aspect of creating work. It's important to use your practice to share your thoughts, feelings and ideas.

The 4 W's

When it comes to selecting and critiquing your work, following these 4 steps will help you prioritise quality over quantity.

- **What** - What is this piece about? Think about the meaning behind this piece.
- **Why** - Why is this piece important to your practice? Thinking about this will help you narrow down your selection.
- **Where** - Where can you go with this piece? If it is an experimentation, think about where you could take it. It's important to understand the journey of each piece.
- **When** - When did you create this piece? Thinking about this will help you determine how relevant it is to your current practice.

Follow us

Follow our social media accounts to receive our artist talks, gallery openings, student exhibitions and more [@artsuniplym](https://www.instagram.com/artsuniplym) [f](https://www.facebook.com/artsuniplym) [@](https://www.youtube.com/artsuniplym) [t](https://www.tiktok.com/artsuniplym) [t](https://www.twitter.com/artsuniplym) [v](https://www.youtube.com/artsuniplym)