

Visual Design Portfolio Guidelines

The visual design programme has limited places each year and selection is very competitive. Only applicants who are successful in the portfolio review, interview and entry test will be offered a place in the programme.

Applicants are required to submit a portfolio which includes a variety of original, developmental and finished works. As a guideline 10 to 15 original pieces of work are required. A portfolio may be a collection of electronic files, containing a collection of design related project, drawings, sketches, photographs, slides, or any other representation of the individual's artistic ability, sensitivities, visual awareness and interests.

Upon review of the portfolios, the successful applicants will be invited to attend an interview.

Submission Checklist

- A 300 words **WRITTEN STATEMENT** that talks about what makes you who you are, what interesting experiences you have had and your future goals and why should you be accepted in the programme.
- Application Exercises (details are in the following pages).
- Include **10-15 PIECES OF YOUR WORK**. You may include any project you've worked on, whether it was as part of your professional experience or even a personal passion project.
- Portfolio work **MUST BE YOUR OWN** and not copied.
- **OBSERVATIONAL WORK**: drawing, painting or collage done from looking at a still life, figure model/ portrait, or landscape. The work should be produced as you see it.
- **PERSONAL WORK**: any art or design that you create on your own, in a medium and style that demonstrate your strengths. Such as: still or motion animation, photography, graphic design, film, video, sculpture, or others. This is an opportunity to show your unique abilities.

Presentation of Portfolio

- All pieces (10-15) must be presented in one PDF. Max size is 20MB.
- The file must include your name, CPR.
- Each project must have: title and type of work, year it was created and detailed description explaining the concept and process behind it. Even if project's language is Arabic, description must be written in English.
- Include your most recent work. Include mainly completed works.
- Photograph all sides of any 3-dimensional work, like packaging or product design.
- Work must be well presented. Do not include any torn or poorly cared for work.

Exercise 1

On an A4 sheet of paper, create a composition of one corner of a room in your house. You can draw it using pencil, charcoal, ink or something else. Or you can paint it using acrylics, oils, or watercolours. Or you can even make a collage.

The corner you choose should contain at least 3 pieces of furniture.

BE CREATIVE AS POSSIBLE.

Write a statement that explains your concept and idea behind what you created.

Exercise 2

On an A3 sheet of paper, use a fine line pen or pencil and draw an accurate square of 200mm x 200mm. Divide the square into 100 smaller squares (each small square = 20mm x 20mm).

On this grid, create an interesting abstract composition by filling the squares of the grid with colours made from coloured paper or paper that has been painted with colour or paper that has been printed with colour. You CANNOT colour directly on to the grid but you must cut and paste each piece of paper that is coloured.

BE CREATIVE AS POSSIBLE.

Write a statement that explains your concept and idea behind what you created.

Application Process



- You'll submit your work (registration will communicate the due date with applicants and method of sending your portfolio).
- Visual Design department will review the portfolios.
- If your portfolio was successful and passes the review, you will be contacted to attend an interview.
- An offer of place will depend on the applicant being successful in the portfolio, interview and fulfilling Bahrain Polytechnic entry requirements.

Useful Hints

Make sure your portfolio is clean and organized. The organization of your portfolio will also represent you and your way of thinking.

Design projects and computer-generated images are not recommended for inclusion in Visual Design portfolios. However, applicants that do submit this work should be careful that it is not about what a computer program can do but what an artist can do with a computer program. It is recommended that this type of work be kept to a minimum and is submitted in conjunction with drawing, painting, and/or sculpture.

No more than 2 computer generated pieces and no more than 3 photographs.

It is important to submit work that demonstrates an applicant's strength. Submitting work simply to show a range of mediums (such as one charcoal, one pastel, one watercolour, etc.) is not recommended if it does not show quality.