

Portfolio Review Guidelines

At NKU, Portfolio Review is an exciting opportunity for students to showcase their progress, skills, and needs as they work towards formally entering the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree program in Art & Design. It's the gateway to admission into our professional BFA program, where students can further hone their craft and pursue their artistic passions specialized in a specific area such as animation.

Students wishing to pursue the BFA should enroll in the ART 299 Portfolio Review course the semester before they plan to participate in the review. Students are encouraged to go through this review at the end of their second year or beginning of their third year in Art & Design. Students are given two opportunities to successfully go through the review.

It's important to remember that while the BFA program is an excellent path for many students, it's not the only option. For various reasons, some students may choose to pursue a BA in Studio Arts instead.

For students pursuing the BFA degree, the journey typically spans approximately four years to achieve this prestigious qualification. During the initial two years of the program, the focus is on completing the foundations curriculum, introductory level studios, and 3D modeling courses. Following successful admittance through the BFA Portfolio Review, students are granted the opportunity to delve deeper into their chosen area of study with advanced courses through an additional two-years of study.

BFA degrees are widely recognized as the nationally accepted professional degrees in visual arts. These programs are highly selective and require a significant level of expected growth and involvement on the student's part. BFA students will fulfill more course requirements specific to their discipline and develop a more comprehensive body of work compared to BA students.

Moreover, BFA students will have the exciting opportunity to exhibit their creations in the NKU Galleries through a BFA Senior Exhibition, providing them with a platform to showcase their talent in a professional gallery setting. This experience allows BFA students to demonstrate their artistic abilities through creative body of work and portfolio.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

Students must have at least a 2.5 GPA to go through the review and to be awarded the BFA degree at the time of graduation.

BFA STATUS

Upon acceptance into the BFA program, students' major status will be updated from BA to BFA in myNKU.

REAPPLYING

Students may reapply for the BFA a second time, preferably after waiting to complete at least another semester of course work. It is to be noted that many excellent BFA graduates have taken the review a second time. The review is to be viewed as guidance tool and is best used when the student has not progressed too far into the major to be able to use the feedback effectively.

PRESENTATION

Students will have a faculty person from their area and two other faculty members on your committee for your review.

You will be asked to stand in front of your work and present your work for approximately 7 minutes to the committee. For video and animated time-based work please limit your demo reel to 5 minutes. The faculty will then ask you questions based on your presentation from the discussion list below. Your typed answers to the questions on the list are designed to help you prepare for this. You will then have time to ask the faculty any questions you may have. The review should last between 15-20 minutes.

PORTFOLIO REVIEW CHECKLIST

Consult with the area coordinator to explore the time and location for your review. This is usually the Friday after Fall or Spring break.

A total of 10 to 15 works should be shown. (Large or temporary installation work can be represented through documentation.) For video and animated time-based work please limit your demo reel to 5 minutes. Please select clips from longer time-based projects that best highlight your work.

Each student is required to show examples of work from the Foundations Courses. This must include one work from each foundation studio class: ART 130, ART 135, and ARTD 210. (Transfer students who did not go through our foundations program must meet with an advisor to choose appropriate substitutions.)

At least one sketchbook is required and works in progress are also encouraged.

Present work in chronological order when appropriate and indicate this information with labels. Pay careful attention to the sequencing and organization of the work shown.

Present work according to the dictates of the medium. Mat when appropriate, framing of work is not suggested (work already framed is fine). You are limited to one projector and or a computer.

Get 2 clear binders/folders and include the following:

Get 2 copies of your transcript with your GPA.

Write a brief artist statement about your work to give faculty a context in which to look at it.

Type both the questions and your answers to the questions listed below.

Word process, proof read, and spell check these documents.

ANIMATION Portfolio Review

Name: _____

Student #: _____

GPA: _____ Second time for review? _____

BFA track: BFA in Animation

Year in program: Sophomore _____ Junior _____ Other (explain)

ARTIST STATEMENT:

QUESTIONS:

The answers to these questions are to be typed, placed in a clear binder or folder, and presented in clear view with the students work. Answering these questions will also help students prepare for their presentation and help with the discussion with the committee.

1. How do you develop your ideas and concepts?
2. What motivates you to make art?
3. How do you use color, space, form, time and other elements in your work?
4. How do you view your craftsmanship?
5. What do you consider to be your strengths?
6. Are there skills you feel need further development?
7. How does your work relate to art historical precedents and practicing contemporary artists?
8. What are your expectations for yourself over the next five years?
9. Why do you want to be an animation artist?