<u>Department of Art & Art History</u>

BA Entrance Portfolio Guidelines

Welcome to all interested in pursuing a studio degree in art! We encourage students with a range of prior experience to apply. The department is committed to providing students with a meaningful learning experience by maintaining desirable faculty-student ratios. Admission to the program is competitive. Due to the large number of applicants received each year, acceptance is limited to a select number of applicants who demonstrate potential for successful completion of the program.

I. Eligibility:

Enrollment in all Studio art courses is open **only** to students who have been formally accepted to the Department of Art & Art History during the annual entrance portfolio review. Applicants to the department ***must already be accepted to UNC Charlotte to submit a portfolio for admission to the major.***

II. Portfolio Deadlines/Calendar:

For entrance into the department for the **Fall 2020—Spring 2021** academic year, submission deadlines are:

- ## Priority Review—March 2, 2020—Noon

    - Students who submit to the priority review deadline will be given priority status in the selection process and, if accepted into the major, will have the advantage of choosing to attend earlier advising and orientation dates for course registration.

    - New freshmen and new transfers who plan to apply to the Priority Review deadline should submit a completed application to the university (this entails submission of online application, payment of application fee, submission of all required transcripts, and SAT or ACT test scores) no later than ***January 31, 2020*** and must be officially admitted to the university at the time of the Priority Review deadline to be considered for review

    - Students who are currently enrolled at UNC Charlotte and wish to change their major to Art should to apply to the Priority Review.

- ## Space Available Review—April 6, 2020—Noon

    - Students who submit to this deadline should understand that admission will be based on available spaces left in the program after the priority review. If accepted into the major, choices regarding advising and orientation dates for course registration will be more limited at this time.

    - New freshmen and new transfers who plan to apply to the Space Available deadline should submit a completed application to the university (this entails submission of online application, payment of application fee, submission of all required transcripts, and SAT or ACT test scores) no later than ***March 2, 2020*** and must be officially admitted to the university at the time of the space available portfolio deadline to be considered for review.

- Students who are currently enrolled at UNC Charlotte and wish to change their major to Art may apply to the Space Available Review, but are encouraged to submit to the earlier Priority Review.

Approximately **3 weeks after each portfolio deadline**, applicants will receive notice that portfolio review decisions have been confirmed. A letter of admittance <u>or</u> non-admittance from the Department will be sent to incoming freshmen and transfer students by mail. Students who are currently enrolled in classes at UNC Charlotte will be notified by email of their art admission decision.

III. Portfolio Requirements:

1. A completed **Portfolio Application Form.**

   New freshmen and transfer students will receive the Portfolio Application Form from the Admissions office upon acceptance to the University. Currently enrolled UNC Charlotte students may request the Portfolio Application Form by email from eschley@uncc.edu *. All students must be accepted to the university to receive the Portfolio Application Form.*

2. **A digital portfolio on FLASHDRIVE** of 10 artworks*.*

   Portfolios should be mailed or delivered to the Department of Art & Art History (location on Portfolio Application Form). Online submissions are not accepted.

IV. Compiling Your Digital Portfolio:

The department will assess your ability to succeed in the Foundations Studio courses as a part of its entrance review criteria. Foundation classes such as Drawing One, 2D and 3D design explore a range of tools and creative processes. Show us you are ready for the Foundations experience by submitting examples of 10 different artworks *representing the range of your best visual thinking, skill and creativity*. *Eligible examples include work created in high school, private classes, university courses, and/or on your own without instruction.*

Submit a total of (10) artworks with at least 3-5 drawings from direct observation of live, three-dimensional situations and the remainder from a variety of disciplines. With these works, you may choose several works from a specific media that show competence in this area or you may choose artworks that show a range of skills and processes. However, do not show a range of media simply to show your artistic diversity. Include only your strongest works.

The 3-5 examples of drawing done from direct observation of live, three-dimensional situations can include self-portraits (using a mirror for reference), figure drawings, object studies, still lifes and landscapes. (Two-dimensional references can be included in a portfolio, but should be kept to a minimum.) Please do not include work that copies photographs, uses the grid system or directly replicates any other artist's work (including replicating anime drawings, cartoons, or video game character designs). If submitting photographs, consider how they reflect your conceptual interests as well as your understanding of composition, light, form and space.

V. Portfolio Review Criteria:

Select & submit work you believe best represents your potential. Your ability to choose wisely is part of the criteria evaluated. The committee will assess your portfolio work examples, reflective statements and conclusion statements based on evidence of the following:

- GPA of 2.5 or higher evidenced on academic transcript

- Range of skills and/or art making processes

- Creative problem solving and conceptual ability

- Responsible use of intellectual property
  Note: If you include work that is copied from another artist and/or source (per class assignment or intended self-study objectives) a statement referencing the source and/or purpose of the work <u>must be included</u> in the description on the Portfolio Application Form. See the UNC Charlotte Code of Student Academic Integrity: <u>http://legal.uncc.edu/policies/up-407</u>

- Creative and expressive use of media

- Understanding and application of design elements and principles

- Technical ability and craftsmanship

- Engagement with the work

- Ability to articulate your ideas in writing

- Potential for advanced level study

VI. Frequently Asked Questions:

<u>How should I photograph my work?</u>

Scan or photograph artwork carefully and artfully. Carefully consider documentation and presentation of each project. Three-dimensional pieces may require views from multiple angles, detail shots, or staging on a neutral backdrop. For tips, view the five-minute video at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iZyRmxPMI9Q.
Quick tips summarized as follows: *Photograph the works in outdoor, indirect light to avoid harsh shadows. Fill the viewfinder, consider the composition, and keep the background simple. Do not use the on-camera flash. Shooting with a tripod is recommended to ensure sharp focus. Optional color correction and cropping in an application such as Photoshop is permitted.*

<u>Should I submit work that shows my artistic skills across a range of media?</u>

It is important that the applicant makes the final decision and submits a portfolio that best represents those ideas, issues and work that they would like considered in the review process. Submitting work simply to show a range of mediums (such as one charcoal, one pastel, one watercolor, etc) is not recommended if it sacrifices consistency of quality.

Can I show older work to show progress?

Though applicants may want to include examples of work from past years, especially to demonstrate growth, it is more important to submit work that represents current skills and experiences.

What if I have detailed work or three-dimensional work? Can I include more images?

You may but are not required to include up to (2) images per artwork to show an additional view, detail, or source referenced that informs the viewer's understanding of the work.

What should I do with time based media like video?

Duration of video clips should be limited to a maximum of 2 minutes. SlideRoom accepts a range of video formats but the file size for video cannot exceed 250 MB. Sound files need to be less than 30 MB.

Why do I need to show some form of the observational process?

The observational process is an important skill because refers to the visual and psychological process of looking at the world around you, making decisions about how you want to interpret what you see, and then replicating that which you observe. This process is fundamental to creating and understanding all things visual. Working from observation means that you are drawing what you see. The medium you use and subject to which you choose to apply the observational process is up to you. Technical studies in various media are adequate but try to move beyond technical studies and use the observational process to express something that is connected to who you are and what you are thinking about.