

Portfolio Content Guidelines

The following guidelines have been prepared by the Graduate Admissions Committee to help applicants select and prepare these samples.

The portfolio should be considered a design problem.

Samples of work should be chosen to cover the breadth as well as the depth of the applicant's knowledge, abilities, and interests. The admissions committee is interested in work that demonstrates knowledge, interest, and ability in technical areas, human and social concerns, and symbolic and aesthetic issues. The committee considers the following types of work to be suitable for inclusion in the portfolio: architectural design, urban design, graphic design, photography, paintings, freehand drawings, building design drawings, analytical investigations (structural and environmental systems), building programming, measured and working drawings, computer generated drawings, and other types of work which best represent the applicant's knowledge, aptitudes, and experience.

Portfolios from applicants to the 3-Year M.Arch. degree usually include samples of freehand drawings, graphic design, photography, paintings, sculpture, ceramics, woodworking, and samples of work as noted above where appropriate.

The committee encourages applicants to be judicious in the choice of reproduction methods and the number of projects illustrated. Each project and the portfolio as a whole should be carefully edited for quality. The committee will assume that portfolio images represent the actual quality of the original work with regard to line character, color, value, finish, and other visual characteristics. Each project or exhibit should be labeled neatly with information describing: the year it was produced; whether the work represents an academic, professional, or other type of project; whether the work was undertaken independently or as part of a group effort; and the medium used, if appropriate. For work produced in academic environments the studio name and instructor should be provided. For professional and group projects, the label should indicate the type and extent of the applicant's personal involvement.