



**Middlesex
University
London**

BA (Hons) Illustration

Portfolio Guidance

A portfolio is a collection of your creative work that introduces you and explains your interests and skills. It should provide evidence of an interest in Illustration, ideally we are looking for between 10-15 pages, enough to see your strengths and ability, but not everything you have ever produced! Portfolios are usually physical books or binders, but if you are submitting an online portfolio, it can be presented in a single PDF format or hosted on an online platform. It should include a variety of visual work made up of projects undertaken as part of your Level 3 qualifications and also include independently created work.

What we look for in your portfolio:

- Examples of set college or A-Level projects – include final pieces as well as the preparatory work such as early sketches, prints, collages etc. Tutors use your portfolio to assess your potential to succeed in your area of interest, so they are looking for evidence of aptitude and endeavour: do you appear to be deeply interested and committed to exploring the subject? They aren't looking for highly finished and polished results but are most interested to see how you set about solving problems or handling new techniques. Experimental work is very welcome (even if the experiment hasn't entirely succeeded!) because it shows how you think creatively and take risks.
- Sketchbooks or photos of sketchbook pages – Show us how you document your creative work and processes
- Observational drawing and life drawing
- Examples of the breadth of your skills - Show us examples of different kinds of techniques and processes you have tried and experimented with. For example, printmaking, drawing, collage, digital and 3D, etc
- Personal work - Impress us with examples of your creative work that show the breadth of your interests and inspirations

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