Digital Futures Portfolio Guidelines for Upper Year Applicants

The Digital Futures undergraduate program accepts students with strengths in diverse areas. Some applicants have strong visual skills such as art making and others are strong in non-visual subjects such as creative writing, science, computing or business. Because of the diversity of applicants, the Digital Futures undergraduate program portfolio requirements are different to the standard OCADU guidelines. This section explains how to make a suitable portfolio that is tailored to your background and interests.

Your portfolio is an important part of your admission application. Keep in mind that when it comes to your portfolio, the most important features we look for are passion and curiosity along with your ability to think laterally or ‘outside the box’. This can be shown through visual or non-visual work.

If your strengths are predominantly visual: your portfolio needs to demonstrate a variety of your skills and approaches to art making. This can include experimentation in both traditional and digital media, shown in a diverse range of media. Work exploring colour, form and mixed media approaches are welcome, as are three dimensional works, such as models, jewellery, or sculpture. You can also provide links to websites that you have designed or that contain your work.

If your strengths are predominantly non-visual: your portfolio should include your best project, such as reports or extensive written work. You should also include information about any hobbies or interests that give us an indication of your passion and curiosity. Some examples include photography, craft, poetry, cartoons, homemade videos, model making, computer programs, Facebook or other websites.

If your strengths are both visual and non-visual: you can follow both sets of the guidelines given above.

A personal Statement of Intent of a maximum of 300 to 350 words is a required element of the portfolio. No portfolio will be reviewed without the written statement.

Digital Futures Undergraduate Program Portfolio Submission Guidelines

All applicants to the Digital Futures program are required to submit a portfolio online through OCAD University’s SlideRoom portal, ocadu.slideroom.com.

Portfolio preparation tips:

- Include of 10 to 20 pieces of your original work, including if possible a journal/sketchbook to demonstrate your creative process
- Demonstrate your ability to work with a wide range of techniques, materials and subject matter
- Include works in 2D, 3D, film, digital or printed media
- Drawings may be from direct observation, such as figure drawing, still life, interiors and landscapes, as well as from imagination and memory
- Generate interest and excitement with the first piece of work
- Be aware that current work best demonstrates your skill level
- Be prepared to explain why a particular work was selected for inclusion in your portfolio, what it means to you and what you were trying to achieve
- Be prepared to reference any research and preparation you did for your final work
- Research the Digital Futures undergraduate program ahead of time to show your level of interest and commitment to studying here

And finally, we wish you the best of luck!