Folios

Your pocket guide
of inspiration and
handy tips

DEAKIN
UNIVERSITY

Did you know...

Most tertiary education providers offer you the opportunity to submit a folio of your work when applying for a creative arts or design course?

It is a good idea to start thinking about this early to allow time to develop a folio of work that you can use as part of your university submission. This guide is designed to help you put together your folio with handy tips from our creative arts team.

Prepare

Research your interest areas. Search far and wide. Explore galleries and museums, books or magazines, watch films and live performances, take photos or discover online platforms.

What is a folio?

A folio is a collection of your personal work. It gives an insight into your creative thinking processes and the meaning behind your work. It showcases your passions, technical skills and diversity as an artist.

Hayden Hood
Isolation Sports
2020
Medium: photography
Bachelor of Creative Arts (Photography) graduate

Show

Develop your ideas and showcase your curiosity. Show the creative process, ask questions about your work and collaborate with others.

Find

Investigate what inspires you. Select ideas, materials and techniques and source good examples of your favourite artists, photographers or designers.

What are universities looking for?

Your folio doesn't need to contain masterpieces, but reveal a process that reflects your imagination, curiosity, inspirations and passions. Jot down some notes on what you'd like to showcase in the space below.

Include

Include work in your folio that excites and inspires you. Your folio should be a true reflection of you and the journey you have taken to get to this point.

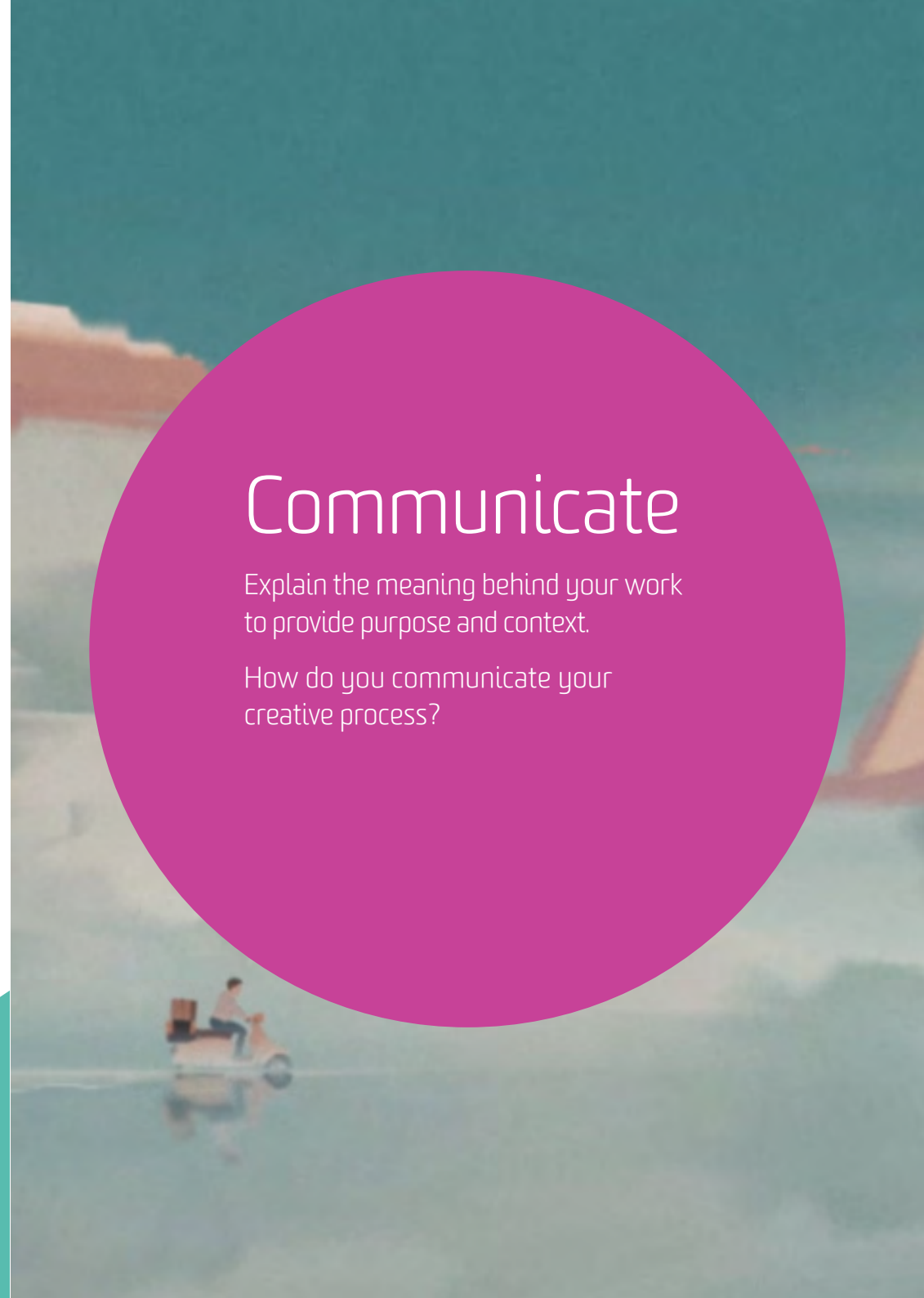## What artforms interest you?

E.g. traditional drawings, digital illustrations, paintings, graphic design, photographs, sculptures, video, interactive or digitally-mediated art, short stories, 2D and 3D Flash animation.

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Communicate

Explain the meaning behind your work to provide purpose and context.

How do you communicate your creative process?

Handy tips

Is submitting a portfolio a compulsory entry requirement?

From Trimester 1 2022, submitting a portfolio is optional. Deakin University uses a range of selection criteria* for course entry. Applicants may submit an optional portfolio of work to showcase their talents and strengthen their application. The portfolio will be used to adjust your rank and increase your chance of being selected.

If I am submitting a folio, what do I need to include in my submission?

Write a personal statement **(250 words)** detailing you, your influences, experience, motivation to study and an explanation of your understanding of the practices within your chosen field. For example:

'I love watching the film 'Selma' because of the art direction so this has influenced my desire to take photographs that are set ups using make-up and costumes. I love the photos of Tracey Moffatt because of the way she draws in personal narratives and storytelling through her work.'

You should upload between **six to eight examples** (following the online instructions and specifications) of your work. Consider some of the following prompt in both your submissions and personal statement:

- **How do they demonstrate techniques you've worked hard to master?**
- **Where are you experimenting with or applying new techniques?**
- **How does your work shocase what you'd like to achieve, or how you'd like to grow in your chosen field?**

Your portfolio doesn't need to contain masterpieces but reveal a process that reflects imagination, curiosity and passion. The works you submit can be in-progress or work you have done in the past. A selection committee, who are excited to see what drives and inspires you, will view your work.

What happens after I submit the folio?

You will receive a confirmation email with a summary of what you have submitted. Your folio will be reviewed by our selection committee. Formal advice of an offer will be received through VTAC, or if you are applying direct to Deakin, via Deakin's selection officers.

Do I need to attend an interview?

No interview is required.

Can I submit my folio for multiple courses?

If you are applying for more than one course, you will need to submit a folio and submission statement for each course.

How do I submit my folio?

Step 1
Visit the portfolio applications page at
deakin.edu.au/portfolio-applications

Step 2
Select the course you are interested in

Step 3
Read the submission instructions and deadlines carefully

Step 4
Start your folio entry

We focus on preparing our students to meet the future with confidence.

That's why we're currently evolving our creative arts courses to reflect our changing world. Stay up-to-date with the latest course information by visiting **deakin.edu.au/create**

Anjella Roessler
Pearl Earring
Bachelor of Creative Arts
(Photography) graduate,
Deakin University

Next steps

It's good to stay curious. After you've submitted your application, we encourage you to keep looking for new ways to grow your craft. This might mean attending workshops, watching YouTube tutorials, or joining crafts. Jot down a few ideas below.

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We're here to help

Visit **deakin.edu.au/portfolio-applications**
Email **myfuture@deakin.edu.au**

'My course provided a safe, non-judgmental, compelling and supportive space in which I could return to dancing. I was also able to pursue my passion for photography by studying the subject as an elective. My studies have allowed me to take advantage of fantastic travel opportunities, which wouldn't have been possible without the support of Deakin.'

Michaela Ottone
Bachelor Creative Arts (Dance)
Bachelor Creative Arts (Honours) Dance
Deakin University

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deakin.edu.au/create