

Northern Kentucky University • BFA • New Media Art

Portfolio Review Guidelines

Portfolio Review is a critique forum to evaluate students' progress, skill level, and needs in order to help them successfully complete the BFA degree program at NKU. It is the mechanism the Department of Visual Arts use for admitting students into the professional BFA program in New Media Art. Please be sure to enroll in the course ART 299 Portfolio Review during registration the semester before you plan to go through review.

Students are encouraged to go through the Portfolio Review at the end of their second year or beginning of their third year in Visual Arts. Students are given two chances to pass the review. For a variety of reasons, not all art students wish to follow a professional BFA program, but can continue to graduate with a BA in Studio Arts.

The BFA student will most likely spend 4 years working toward this degree. A student entering the BFA program after the Portfolio Review is encouraged to spend 2 more full years working toward the degree. This student will fulfill more course requirements and have more depth in the area of emphasis than the BA student. This degree is geared more toward performance within or across specific media and is considered the professional degree.

The BA student will complete the degree program in approximately 4 years. This student will receive a comprehensive but more general education in studio art. In addition, a BA student must take 12 hours in an area of concentration outside of the art department.

Graduate schools accept both BFA and BA degrees and generally base their decision for acceptance into the program on the portfolio submitted and the grade point average.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE: You must have at least a 2.5 university GPA to go through the review and to be awarded the BFA degree at the time of graduation.

BFA STATUS: Upon acceptance into the BFA program, you must go to the registrar and officially change your major status from BA to BFA.

REAPPLYING: You can apply for the BFA a second time, preferably after waiting to complete at least another semester of course work in the major. It is to be noted that many excellent BFA graduates have taken the review a second time. The review is to be viewed as guidance tool and is best used when the student has not progressed too far into the major to be able to use the feedback effectively.

COMMITTEE PRESENTATION: You will have a faculty person from your area and two other faculty members on your committee that you must invite and schedule in conjunction with your advisor.

You will be asked to stand in front of your work and do no more than a 10 minute presentation to the committee. The faculty will then ask you questions based on your presentation from the discussion list below. Your typed answers to the questions on

the list are designed to help you prepare for this. You will then have time to ask the faculty any questions you may have. The review should last between 45 to 60 minutes.

PORTFOLIO REVIEW CHECKLIST:

- Meet with the area coordinator to set up a time and location for your review. Then schedule two additional faculty members to participate in the review.
- A total of 10 to 15 works should be shown. Large or temporary installation work can be represented through documentation. Please have a demo reel no longer than 5 minutes with excerpts from time based media (video, sound, performance documentation etc.)
- Each student is required to show four examples of work from the Foundations Core. This must include one work from each foundation class: 2D, 3D, 4D, and drawing. (Transfer students who did not go through our foundations program must meet with an advisor to choose appropriate substitutions.)
- At least one sketchbook is required and works in progress are also encouraged.
- Present work in chronological order when appropriate and indicate that you have done so. Pay careful attention to the sequencing and organization of the work shown.
- Present work according to the dictates of the medium. Mat when appropriate, framing of work is not suggested (work already framed is fine). You are limited to one projector and three computers.
- Get 2 clear binders and include the following:
 - Get 2 copies of your transcript and calculate your overall university GPA.
 - Write a brief artist statement about your work to give faculty a context in which to look at your portfolio.
 - Type both the questions and your answers to the questions listed in the application below.
 - Word process, proof read, and spell check these documents.

Northern Kentucky University • BFA • New Media Art Portfolio Review Artist's Application

Name: _____

last 4 digits of Soc. Sec #: _____

GPA: _____

Second time for review? _____

Year in program:

- Sophomore
- Junior
- Other (explain) _____

ARTIST STATEMENT:

QUESTIONS: The answers to these questions on the application below are to be typed, placed in a clear binder, and presented in clear view with your work. Answering these questions will be the preparation for your presentation and help with the discussion with the committee.

1. How do you develop your ideas and concepts?

2. What motivates you to make art?

3. How do you use color, space, form, and other dynamics in your work?

4. How do you view your craftsmanship?

5. What do you consider to be your strengths?

6. Are there skills you feel need further development?

7. How does your work relate to art historical precedents and practicing contemporary artists?

8. What are your expectations for yourself over the next five years?

9. Why do you want to be a New Media artist?