



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE  
NEW UNIVERSITY

EST. 1891



INTERVIEW GUIDANCE  
BA (HONS) HAIR AND  
MAKE-UP FOR FILM &  
PERFORMANCE





## Admissions will inform you if you have been selected for interview.

The interview process will be kept as informal as possible and is aimed at helping us to get to know you and your work better.

## *Preparing for your interview*

***Please read carefully the following information and instructions, which are intended to help you with your interview.***

***You are required to bring along the following for interview:***

***A portfolio of your work which should include:***

- A comprehensive selection of work sketchbooks
- School/college coursework: This includes examples of any practical experience of working with hair or media make-up processes. Students on a Foundation Diploma Art & Design course, without specific expertise at Level 3 in Hair and Make-Up, can present a range of outcomes; however, you should evidence your strengths in illustration, character design and other approached relevant to developing a future career in hair and make-up.

***Where possible, you should also bring:***

- A sample of written work from your most recent studies

For applicants who do not have a written example, please complete a short 800-word written assignment task on the following subject: Select a contemporary movie and choose ONE main, and ONE secondary character. Observe and describe the details that reflect each of the characters' personality and character traits. Evaluate the differences in the make-up and hairstyles of the chosen characters, explaining your thoughts on why the artists made these choices, considering how the make-up and hairstyles presented have been influenced by the rest of the production design, including the period the film was set in, its style and colour palette. You are strongly encouraged to supplement your writing with research on the topic, evidenced through accurate referencing.

### **Portfolio**

Your portfolio is a collection of work that represents your creative potential and demonstrates your ability and interest in your chosen subject. Its quality is an important factor in the offer of a place on a course. It is likely that the interviewer will look at your portfolio with you so be sure that you are able to discuss each piece of work: why you chose that topic, what you were trying to achieve, and the process you went through to achieve the final product.

When preparing your portfolio, think of your audience, your strengths, and what you are trying to express to the interviewer. Try to make your portfolio as clear and as organised as possible. It is advisable to present the work in related groups, rather than in chronological order, as this will show how your idea developed.

What should be included?

Your portfolio should include the strongest examples of your creative work; follow your instincts but also seek advice from your teachers. Portfolios can vary from student to student but typically a portfolio can contain work from a variety of media. Quality is better than quantity so only include **12 to 20** pieces that you consider best evidences your diversity. If you have created 3D pieces of work (e.g. make-up practice on a live model, wig design on a dolly head, or 3D installation), photographs of these can also be included.

Ensure that your portfolio shows evidence of your creative process through your projects, from initial concept to final outcome. Include sketchbooks, research, evaluative notes etc.

### **Sketchbooks, Research and Supporting Material**

Sketchbooks and supporting materials are essential. They will allow the interviewer to get a glimpse into how you think creatively and discover how you have developed your ideas. We don't expect these to be neat, tidy or organised. We also don't expect these to contain finished ideas. We also like to see documentation of journeys, visits and activities outside your main studies, which may have inspired you.

### **An Example of Written Work**

It is advantageous to support your portfolio with some written work. This can be an essay or a contextual report, which will give us some insight into how you write formally and your familiarity with key texts.

## **E-Portfolios**

Whilst showing work digitally is an option please ensure work is formatted correctly for easy viewing on a Mac computer, we would suggest a PDF file. It is important that digital portfolios are accompanied with physical sketchbooks as detailed above.

You can email a link to your website or online portfolio in place of attending in person, to [admissions@bucks.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@bucks.ac.uk). Alternatively, a reduced size PDF file consisting of 12-20 pages maximum can be sent. Your email must be received at least a week before your original allocated interview slot. This will be followed up with a telephone or Skype interview, or feedback via email.

## **Interview process**

We know that an interview can be a daunting experience. We make allowances for nerves and we endeavor to make the process as enjoyable as possible. The interview will be relatively informal and will include a course overview, as well as an interview with academic staff. Your interview will include a review of your portfolio, discussion of your aspirations and your interest in our course.