

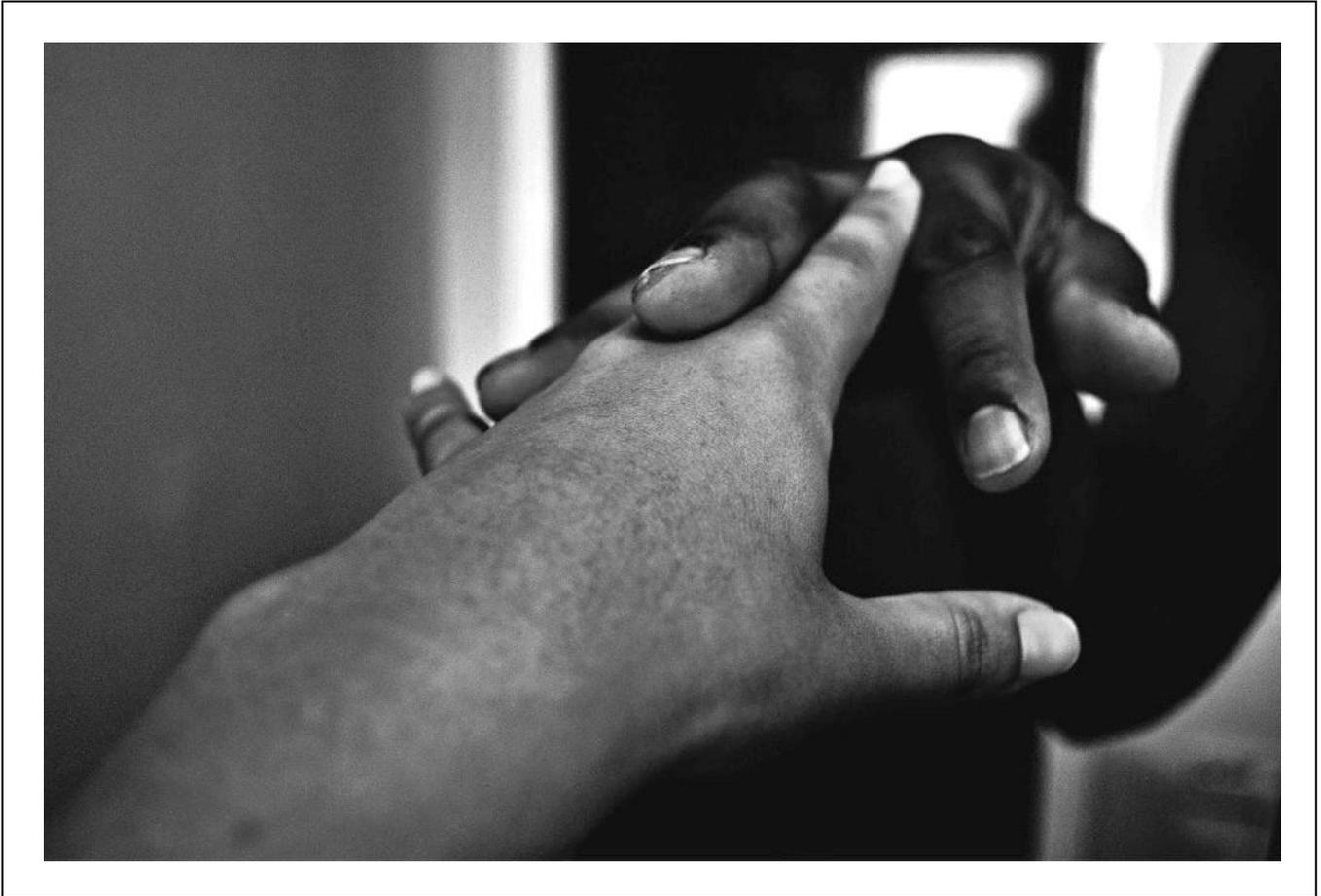


BUCKINGHAMSHIRE  
NEW UNIVERSITY

EST. 1891



# INTERVIEW GUIDANCE BA (HONS) PHOTOGRAPHY



*Photograph by Level 5 BA (Hons) Photography student, Nadia Hanif*

## Preparing for your interview

**Admissions will inform you if you have been selected for interview and will send you an email invitation for one with a member of the course team.**

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

For your interview, you are required to prepare and present either an ePortfolio (PDF file), an online webpage or a physical portfolio. You will need to be prepared to talk about your work with your interviewer.

## The 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 securing a place on the 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 ideas develop.

### 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 demonstrates your diversity
- If you have created 3D pieces of work (e.g. as part of an installation or gallery exhibit), photographs of these can also be included
- Include any school/college coursework (specifically photography). Applicants currently on a Foundation Diploma Art & Design course can present a range of outcomes, but examples of photography-based approaches should be evidenced
- Also consider a selection of personal work/photographs or anything similar which reflects your interests
- Where possible, you should also include a sample of written work from your most recent studies e.g. essay or contextual report in any art or media-related subject

- If relevant, links to any online platforms such as websites or Instagram can also be included
- Show evidence of your creative process through your projects, from initial concept to final outcome. For ePortfolios, include page scans from selected sketchbook pages showing your research, evaluative notes and developmental work. These will allow the interviewer to get a glimpse of your creative thinking 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.

#### Physical portfolios:

- Ensure these are no larger than approximately A3 in size
- In preparation, you may wish to tab certain pages to talk about during the interview.

#### ePortfolios:

- This can be in the form of an online webpage or a PDF ePortfolio
- Ensure your PDF file is no bigger than 20Mbs in total, so first reduce any large image files before inserting them in to your portfolio file
- If you have an electronic device e.g. a laptop or tablet, then please bring this with you to present your ePortfolio with. Alternatively, bring your ePortfolio on a USB stick or email it to the Course Leader, [Alexandra.Murphy@bucks.ac.uk](mailto:Alexandra.Murphy@bucks.ac.uk) prior to the interview.

## The Interview Process

Once your application has been processed, you will be invited to attend an in-person or online interview with a member of the course team. We know that any interview can be a daunting experience. We make allowances for nerves, and we endeavour to make the process as enjoyable as possible. The interview will be relatively informal and will include a course overview as well as a discussion of your aspirations and your interest in our course; you will also have the opportunity to share and discuss your portfolio work.

If you are attending an in-person interview, a member of the course team will collect you for your interview at the main reception at our High Wycombe campus. Details will be sent to you with an email invitation. You will also be given a tour of the photography facilities.

If you are attending an online interview, this will be held via Microsoft Teams and a link will be sent to you via an email invitation. You are also required to email your ePortfolio or webpage link prior to your interview to the Course Leader, [Alexandra.Murphy@bucks.ac.uk](mailto:Alexandra.Murphy@bucks.ac.uk).