



## INTERVIEW GUIDANCE SET DESIGN FOR STAGE AND SCREEN



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 help you decide whether this is the right course for you.

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:

**Portfolio** 

Your portfolio should demonstrate your creativity and experimental approach to Set Design for

Stage and Screen. We advise you to plan the sequence of your work; be clear and logical in the

way the work is presented.

Your portfolio should include approximately 15-25 sheets of mounted work of A3 minimum to A1

maximum size. We advise all applicants to mount work onto white paper or where necessary,

white lightweight card.

The portfolio should contain work produced at a variety of stages (e.g. work in progress and some

finished pieces). Include work created in the last eighteen months and if relevant, part of a current

project, even if this is work in progress or at an early stage of development. We prefer applicants to

show colour photographs of large-scale pieces, 2D and 3D work such as models made. Drawing is

an important part of the set design process, so if possible include drawings freehand, technical

drawings, model making and CAD work.

We do not expect applicants to have experienced aspects of the Set Design process but to show

demonstrative examples of interest within their work. It is more important at this stage to prove you

have an understanding and awareness of design in your sketchbooks and portfolio. Weare

interested in seeing your thought processes and how you develop your projects.

Sketchbooks and Research

Do also remember to bring along **up to three** sketchbooks or notebooks, which evidences your inspiration, concepts, research and design thinking as your projects have evolved. We do not

expect these to be neat and contain finished ideas, rather the exact opposite, we are looking for creative thinking and a good approach to solving problems. If you have decided to put something in your sketchbook there must have been a reason and looking through them reveals a great deal

about a person's interests and what inspires them, so do not be surprised if your interviewer

spends more time talking to you about your sketchbook than your portfolio.

No Set Design related work?

Buckinghamshire New University
High Wycombe Campus, Queen Alexandra Road, High Wycombe

We accept students from a range of art and design backgrounds. Make sure to include as many

drawings, mixed-media, photography, CAD, technical drawing and model making as possible. Be

sure to show and discuss your awareness of design and theatre / film in general.

We recognise that mature students may not have created a body of work that is structured in the

same way as other applicants. We would still expect to see self-directed work including

sketchbooks and finished pieces. If you have created work on various courses or at different times

edit what you have and mount the work as advised.

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.

Information for Overseas Applicants

Students who live overseas and are unable to attend an interview should email a link to your website

or online portfolio in place of attending in person, to 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.

Please ensure your portfolio and sketchbooks are clearly marked with your name.

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