

PORTFOLIO REVIEW APPLICATION AND INFORMATION FOR ART TRANSFER STUDENTS ENTERING UCSC FALL 2023

The UCSC Art Department is dedicated to combining theory and practice in the following areas of the Fine Arts: painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, digital/new media art, print media, public art and intermedia. The UCSC Art Department does NOT teach courses in applied arts (graphic design, illustration, fashion design) or courses in crafts (pottery, fiber arts, jewelry, glass). The Art Department Portfolio Review Committee seeks students of strong promise in the Fine Arts.

All junior transfer students interested in art who are admitted to attend the University must pass a portfolio review prior to attending UCSC. Acceptance to UCSC does not guarantee admittance to the Art Program nor does passing the portfolio review guarantee that UCSC will accept you to the University.

The portfolio review is a highly competitive review. It is advised that students complete all three of their lower division studios at the community college, in addition to studios in their area of interest, to be able to submit a high level portfolio. Students who do not pass the portfolio review (even if accepted to UCSC) will NOT be eligible to take art classes at UCSC during the academic year and must pursue another major. Applicants will know the results of the portfolio review before they have to submit their Statement of Intent to Register to the UCSC Admissions Office.

Name _____
Last First Middle

Address _____
Street City State Zip

Telephone # _____ E-Mail: _____

UCSC STUDENT ID# (NOT SOCIAL SECURITY #): W _____

Community College you have/are attended/ing: _____

Indicate your proposed area(s) of emphasis (you may mark more than one if you have varied interests):

____ PAINTING ____ DRAWING ____ PUBLIC ART
____ PHOTOGRAPHY ____ PRINT MEDIA ____ DIGITAL / NEW MEDIA
____ SCULPTURE ____ INTERMEDIA

WEB/PHOTO SHARE SITE ADDRESS: _____

Please make your web address short and easy to type in. No long series of numbers/letters. PRINT CLEARLY!

I have read and understood the admission requirements for the art major. I certify that all of the information I have provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

PLEASE RETURN THE FOLLOWING ITEMS (INCLUDING THIS APPLICATION PAGE) via email to artadvisor@ucsc.edu by Friday, April 1, 2023

1) Submit the following as PDFs in your email (DO NOT submit Google Docs):

*Application form above. (Please, just the first page with your information)

*Written Statement - 350 words maximum!

*Image inventory sheet listing all images on your web/photo share site with titles, media, sizes and dates.

*Copies of transcripts from all colleges you have attended or are attending (unofficial is fine as long as the name of the college is on the transcript). NOTE: we cannot obtain the transcripts you submitted to the UCSC Admissions Office.

2) INCLUDE YOUR WEBSITE INFORMATION ON THE APPLICATION FORM AND CREATE A LINK IN YOUR EMAIL! Your link should open up directly to your website/file share site.

Include in your site, 15-20 quality images. When setting up your site, please have it so that when the faculty open it all images are in one file and open at the same time. Do not make separate files for different media (sculptures, paintings, drawings, etc) Your name MUST be visible at your website.

Please make sure the web/photo share site is accessible from multiple platforms (MAC / PC).

PORTFOLIO

Your website/photo share portfolio introduces your work to the Portfolio Review Committee. It is in your interest to submit images of high technical quality; the images should be clear and well-presented so as to show your work accurately. Details or close-ups may be helpful when documenting detailed work, or work where the surface is important. Materials submitted on your website should be organized to show your work in the most favorable way. It is useful to consult with someone else - an art professor, or an art student who has already passed the review – in order to develop the strongest application possible. The Portfolio Review committee is looking for students who demonstrate skill, personal direction, ambition and commitment.

Portfolios Should:

- * Show a range of work produced in your art class
- * Focus on quality as opposed to quantity.
- * Indicate time spent to achieve a strong resolution.
- * Show thought given to the generation and execution of the work.
- * Show attention to use of materials and processes.
- * Provide evidence of exploration in form and technique.

Portfolios Should Not:

- *Show work of low quality along with work of high quality.
- *Include high school work unless it is truly exceptional.

WRITTEN STATEMENT

Your written statement is considered an important part of the portfolio. Evaluation is based upon signs of a student's potential for joining theory and practice in his or her creative activity. While criteria for evaluation are difficult to measure in art practices, the written statement helps provide a basis for evaluation in each area.

Written Statements Should:

- Include comments on your art background, your reasons for choosing to concentrate in art, some of the ideas in which you are currently interested, and indications of future areas you would like to explore.
- Discuss the work you've submitted in the written statement.
- Address your recent (college) art background (as opposed to your childhood experiences in art).

EVALUATION CRITERIA (See attached "General Information on the Portfolio Review")

The Portfolio Review Committee is looking for candidates who give evidence of strong promise in the field of the Fine Arts. When evaluating your portfolio and statement, ask yourself these questions:

- Does the documentation of your work communicate its quality?
- Is your statement clear? Does it touch on all the topics requested above?
- Does your application communicate skill and commitment?

GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE PORTFOLIO REVIEW

PORTFOLIO REVIEW COMMITTEE:

In order to select its students, the Art Department appoints a rotating Portfolio Review committee. This committee reviews applications from transfer students. The objective of the committee is to admit students who demonstrate, as evidenced in their portfolio, statement and community college performance, that their intentions and achievements are most compatible with the mission, standards, goals, and specializations of the Art Department.

In general, the art work on your web site is of primary interest to the committee. The committee expects these materials to be adequately documented and to be carefully and clearly presented. The committee is a group of experts in their fields, and their expertise includes an understanding of how to interpret visual materials. They are skilled at “reading” the visual evidence presented in the images and in detecting the commitment and accomplishment of the applicant. They have an expertise in understanding how works of art come about both conceptually and in terms of skill, and they have an expertise in understanding where beginning artworks lead in terms of future developments. When disagreements and uncertainties arise in the visual materials, and the potential of the applicant in our program is uncertain, added weight is given to written materials (statements and transcripts/narratives). Thus a determination is made.

The committee seeks to reflect in its judgment the viewpoint of the department as a whole. Usually committee members arrive at agreements without difficulty. Nevertheless the department, in its efforts to maximize the opportunity of applicants, rotates the committee membership. This is done by appointing different faculty members to the review committee for each review.

WHAT DOES THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE LOOK FOR?

Students who wish to improve their prospects for acceptance often ask the following: What does the committee wish to see? What presentations make a favorable impression on the committee? What things make an unfavorable impression? The committee is looking for vitality, commitment, and skill, or signs of potential for the development of these things.

- **VITALITY:** By “vitality” we mean we want to see evidence that the student is excited by the work. We want to see evidence of this quality in the work itself.
- **COMMITMENT:** By “commitment” we mean that we want to see that students have invested themselves in certain ideas, ways of doing things, or ways of conceptualizing their creative work, and evidence of a willingness to spend time on individual projects and/or on the body of work contained in the portfolio. We also want to get a sense that students can exert judgment about their own work – that they can tell good from bad in their own work.
- **SKILL:** By “skill” we mean that the student demonstrates a level of technical ability in one or more areas and that the student does not require remedial work that cannot be provided by the department.

The Art Department is also concerned about each student’s professional expectations as they relate to our program. We want our departmental offerings to coincide with each student’s expectations and skills in a productive and meaningful way. As we do not teach animation, design, illustration, or crafts, we are disinclined to accept students who are clearly committed to these areas. We believe that such students would best be served by entering another program in another college or university that is geared toward these art forms.

STATEMENT:

As to the statement, the Art Department wishes to see evidence of similar qualities to those seen in the visual materials: vitality, commitment, vision and skill, as articulated in writing about each applicant’s artwork, ideas, and ambitions.