

## **USM FOUNDATIONS PORTFOLIO EVALUATION**

The Foundation Portfolio Evaluation is a requirement that enables students to select and present a body of their artwork within given guidelines for review by Art Department faculty prior to becoming an art major. This process allows for identification of the student's overall strengths and any weaknesses that must be addressed in order to matriculate within the Department of Art.

Students must submit a portfolio of their artwork to be reviewed by the Art Department faculty prior to enrolling in 300-level and above coursework. Students are eligible to submit their portfolio during the semester in which they are completing the Art Foundation courses: ART 141 (Surface, Space, Time 2D), ART 142 (Surface, Space, Time 3D), ART 151 (Fundamentals of Perceptual Drawing), and at least one of the required ARH 111 or ARH 112 Art History Survey courses.

Portfolios must be submitted no later than one semester after completing the foundation courses. Transfer students who have completed the equivalent of the foundation courses at another institution are still required to submit a portfolio at the next scheduled opportunity and no later than their second semester at the University of Southern Maine.

### **FOUNDATION PORTFOLIO EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS:**

The portfolio should consist of no more than twelve (12) works within specific categories.

- 3 - Two-dimensional design**
- 2 - Three-dimensional design (must have at least 2 views photographed)**
- 3 - Drawing**
- 1 - Self-portrait (drawn from life)**
- 3 - Open Submissions**
- 12 - Total Number**

**Each student will choose two works to mat with white, off-white or ivory mat board and backed with firm backing.** The materials do not need to be archival; matted works should be inserted into in plastic sleeves, which can be modified [trimmed to size and taped to backing] to fit the format of the work.

The un-matted works on paper must be presented in individual clear plastic sleeves (not in a book or portfolio) with a firm backing inserted behind the work.

Two works will be selected by the Art Department to be included in a "Portfolio Foundation" Exhibition in Kidder Gallery that will follow the Review.

**A completed portfolio questionnaire form must accompany your work. Each work submitted must be labeled on the front with the category it belongs to and labeled on the back with the student's name. No thumbdrives, discs, glass, three-dimensional work, or work larger than 36" x 36" (including matting) will be accepted.**

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**All three-dimensional work must be represented by a minimum of two photographs of each work, matted or mounted on firm backing and inserted into plastic sleeves. Do not present work in a bound portfolio or book.** The entire portfolio should represent the applicant's current interests and abilities.

Two-dimensional design works should exhibit skills in the visual design of the flat page.

The Three-dimensional design works should exhibit (through photographs) capabilities in the physical development and articulation of form and space.

The Drawing works may be in any medium and should exhibit skills and concepts of drawing.

The Self-Portrait must be executed from life in any medium. It must be a representational depiction rendered by hand.

Open Submissions may be works in any medium presented in conformity with the overall guidelines of this review.

Students' portfolios should demonstrate level of skill, conceptual understanding and personal creativity at a beginning to intermediate level.

If you need assistance please contact your advisor or any full-time faculty member. Presentation should be considered for the joint purposes of appearance and protection. The department cannot accept responsibility for damage or loss of the work.

**PORTFOLIO THAT DO NOT ADHERE TO THE ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR REVIEW.**

Students will be notified of the results of the review within two to three weeks. Notices will be sent to the address provided on the portfolio questionnaire.

Art candidates whose Foundation Portfolios are not accepted are required to meet with their advisor and one additional full-time faculty member, either separately or together, to review and discuss their plans for re-submission.

Students whose portfolios that are not accepted may re-submit a portfolio two more times. Failure to pass the portfolio review three times will result in denial of acceptance as an Art Department degree candidate.