





Portfolio Tips

M.Arch.I and M.Arch.II /SUPRASTUDIO Applicants

Your design portfolio is an important component of the M.Arch.I and M.Arch.II application at UCLA. Portfolios are reviewed by our design and critical studies professors who serve on our admissions committee. If you haven't had a chance to complete your portfolio yet (***M.Arch.I applications are due Dec 15, 2017 and M.Arch.II applications due Jan 6, 2018***), here are some tips to consider:

THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Demonstrate a range of your abilities to understand form, space, and assembly.
- Clearly articulate project ideas in concise project statements that also identify your role and credit others if the project was executed by a team.
- Ensure that both graphic composition and layout clearly structure and synthesize the different drawings, images or photographs that represent your creative projects.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Choose images that will reproduce well. For instance fine line work sometimes does not reproduce well. Compensate for this before reproducing a large-scale drawing into a small-scale portfolio format.
- Projects may include drawings, paintings, sculpture, or photography; graphic, industrial or interior design; architectural, landscape, or urban design; most importantly, whatever the focus, each project must clearly communicate an aptitude for idea-driven design and refined organizational sensibilities.
- Your portfolio will be viewed by each member of the admissions committee. While it should be compressed in order to be quickly navigable, it should nevertheless be of excellent digital resolution in order to be clearly legible.

DESIGN TIPS:

- Use an invisible grid, or any other clear ordering system, throughout the portfolio to organize your page layouts and overall visual rhythm.
- Consider how to make both memorable entry and exit impressions: perhaps, open with your best project and close with your second-best one.
- Consider compositional continuity and hierarchy of information (i.e. whether to start a project on the left or right page; whether or not to use margins; or how to handle juxtaposition of content across facing pages.)
- Remove illegible text from previous work and replace with legible text.
- Standardize font and font sizes.
- Check for spelling and grammar.

From the A.UD Admissions Committee

I am less impressed if you played with Legos in your crib and more impressed if you can convincingly articulate what drives you today to become an architect. The projects you show can be of any discipline as long they explain why they were important to you



and how you learned from your successes and failures. In addition, we look at your curiosity about the things you do in life, and how our offerings at UCLA can help you towards a path of architecture as a way to assess our current and future environment.



Mark Mack
Professor, SUPRASTUDIO Mark Mack

For your portfolio, make the layout and graphic design as simple as possible. Use a simple grid in InDesign and make the images as high resolution and clear as possible. Don't use more than one or two typefaces.



Neil Denari
Professor

Make sure your statement of purpose communicates your ambitions for graduate study, rather than serving as a personal record of anecdotes or accomplishments. The admissions committee wants to know what interests you will pursue as a future architect and why you think UCLA is the school for you.



Michael Osman
Associate Professor, Critical Studies

Think of your portfolio as a book, as an object that has weight, nice proportions and that feels good while navigating through its pages even though it is in a digital format. It's productive to think about it as an art show catalog: concise, clean and clear; possibly one or two images or drawings per page, or several smaller images operating as a series, with a small caption explaining its content. It's also extremely important to maintain graphic consistency throughout the portfolio; think of each spread as one canvas instead of individual pages; introduce each project or category of work using the same layout; generate a content page to introduce the work.



Georgina Huljich
Adjunct Assistant Professor

For M.Arch.II applicants to The Now Institute SUPRASTUDIO, we want to see a variety of projects, both digital and real that showcase multiple skills. We want to see an indication of strategic thinking rather than solely formal design. Clarity of thought and analysis is weighed equally to clarity of presentation.



Eui-Sung Yi
Director, The Now Institute

We look forward to receiving your application.

From our website: http://www.aud.ucla.edu/admissions/graduate_admissions.html

Portfolio of Creative Work

(M.Arch.I / M.Arch.II applicants only)

A.U.D requires all applicants applying to the M.Arch.I and M.Arch.II program to submit a digital portfolio as part of their application. No hard copy portfolios will be accepted.

You will be prompted to upload your portfolio in the Architecture section of the Application for Graduation Admission (AGA.) It should be uploaded as a single pdf file.

Your portfolio should be saved as a PDF, including a cover and rear cover that is 8 1/2" x 11" either landscape or portrait format. Please state your name clearly on the cover page. Image format/sizes should be at least 150 dpi and no more than 300 dpi. Your compressed file size should be no greater than 15 MB.



UCLA Architecture and Urban Design graduate program is ranked No. 6 in the US in [Architectural Record's Top 10 Schools for 2018](#).

Among public universities, UCLA is ranked No. 1 in the US by the [Wall Street Journal](#) and [U.S. News and World Report](#).

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For more information on M.Arch.I, please click [here](#)

To view a recent archive of Professor Neil Denari's Online Info Session click [here](#)

For more information on Graduate Admission, please click [here](#)

For more information on SUPRASTUDIO/M.Arch.II, please click [here](#)

Questions: admissions@aud.ucla.edu



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