



The world needs good design.

The size and shape of mobile devices, the animation we see on the big screen, the materials used in the buildings we enter, design touches everything around.

In response to an expanding global interest in all disciplines of design, the College's curriculum incorporates relevant practices that prepare our students for a career in design.

Keep reading for more information about the application guidelines for

Architecture
Art+Design
Graphic Design
Industrial Design

NC STATE College of Design

Studio-Based Major Application Guidelines

Architecture | Art+Design | Graphic Design | Industrial Design

HOW TO APPLY TO A STUDIO-BASED MAJOR



APPLICATION

Submit a completed Common Application or Coalition Application

A studio-based major needs to be selected as your first-choice major, it cannot be selected as a second choice major.

We strongly suggest choosing a second choice major on your application, if applicable. Your second choice major cannot be another studio-based major.



WOLFPAW

Use wolfPAW to upload your portfolio + essay and complete the rest of your application.

Important! You will not have access to wolfPAW until 14 days after you submit your application!

The checklist for completing an application to NC State University can be found within your personalized wolfPAW account.



PORTFOLIO

Submit your 10 portfolio images and Design Essay response through wolfPAW.

A portfolio is a collection of your strongest work. This is a showcase of who you are as a maker and creator.

Submissions do not need to be major specific. Any medium is accepted.

You must submit 10 images.



ESSAY

Submit your 10 portfolio images and Design Essay response through wolfPAW.

The Design Essay prompts the applicant to think creatively about the world around them.

You will receive your Design Essay prompt on your wolfPAW account. Please submit your essay as a .doc or .pdf file.

APPLICATION TIMELINE

NOVEMBER 1

Application + Portfolio Deadline

Submit your Common or Coalition application, your 10-piece portfolio and design essay through your wolfPAW account.

Important! You will not have access to wolfPAW until 14 days after you submit your application. Please be prepared to upload your essay response and 10-piece portfolio as soon as you have access to wolfPAW. Incomplete portfolios or portfolios received after November 1 may not be reviewed for admission.

Undergraduate Admissions reviews applicants and sends competitive students to Design for review of portfolio and essay.

LATE DECEMBER

Admissions Update

College of Design provides recommendations (admit, decline) to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. The Office of Undergraduate Admissions will provide an update within wolfPAW.

MID-JANUARY

Design Connections by invitation only.

Students who are invited to visit the College of Design can connect with faculty and students on-campus.

LATE FEBRUARY

Final Decisions

Final notifications will be released by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

PORTFOLIO RECOMMENDATIONS BY MAJOR

ARCHITECTURE

2-Dimensional exploration

sketching, drawing or painting by hand

3-Dimensional exploration

innovative thinking in 3D mediums
(ex. sculpture, furniture, pottery, etc.)

Creativity and good craft

pieces that show imagination in their conception
and attention to detail in
their construction

ART-DESIGN

Evidence of Creativity

pieces that show innovation and imagination

2D+3D skill

sketching, drawing, and/or sculpting within a
variety of mediums and sizes

Digital Media

creating within a digital medium including digital
graphics, animation, videography, and/or entry-
level programming samples.

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Visual communication skills

work should express specific ideas, attitudes,
events, or stories

Serial or sequential work

series of themed works; various iterations of same
idea; same subject executed in different mediums

Problem solving skills

evidence of problem solving for larger or smaller
issues

INDUSTRIAL DESIGN

Evidence of creativity

pieces that show imagination

Problem solving skills

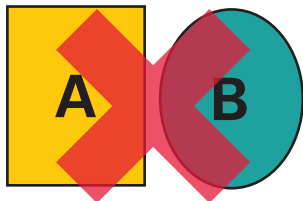
work that centers around purposeful design,
evidence of problem solving for larger or smaller
issues

Originality

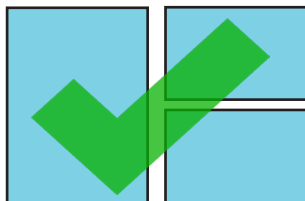
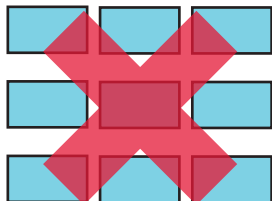
images that show independent and innovative
thinking in 2D or 3D mediums

GENERAL PORTFOLIO RECOMMENDATIONS

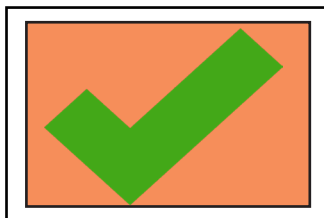
Show one piece of work per image



You can Show multiple views of one work



Use well-lit, high-res images with neutral backgrounds



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