

REAL BRIEFS. REAL PARTNERS. REAL IMPACT.



Portfolio Interview pathway for the Bachelor of Design at Western Sydney University.

We welcome the opportunity to meet you, view your work, and discuss your interest in studying Design. This online interview will help determine your eligibility for an early offer into the undergraduate degree.

Our brand new three-year B. Design (formerly 1571 B. Design (Visual Communication)) program is centred on studio-based practice and will provide you with skills and knowledge to communicate ideas and information across a wide range of visual media. It nurtures innovative, articulate designers with strong portfolios ready for exciting careers in the design and creative industries. The program takes account of the rapid transformation of globalised communication, information, artificial intelligence and media technologies that are reshaping visual communication design. Our subjects combine practice and theory to develop your creative, intellectual, and technical skills in preparing static and moving materials. It does this in well-equipped studios, with a mix of online and face to face lectures and workshops in tutorial or computer lab environments. The program integrates projects from external community and industry clients, so that students are job ready when they graduate.

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR INTERVIEW:

- Select an interview time slot (20 minutes)
<https://admissions.westernsydney.edu.au>
- Lodge an application through the Universities Admissions Centre NSW and ACT (UAC) or directly to Western Sydney University via:
westernsydney.uac.edu.au/ws/

(Ideally this should be completed prior to the interview, however, you can still book an interview without having undertaken this process. You will need to complete it following the interview to receive an offer. We can provide assistance if needed).

Note: email Head of Discipline, Dr Michelle Catanzaro

m.catanzaro@westernsydney.edu.au to answer any questions or if you have issues booking an interview time. Applicants can be made an offer to the program based on a portfolio interview, which is conducted by the Western Sydney University Design staff.

HOW TO PREPARE FOR YOUR PORTFOLIO INTERVIEW

You are required to prepare 3 to 6 pieces of original creative work to show and discuss in your session. This can be work that you've produced for school, a course, or as a personal project, including (but not limited to):

- Drawings – pencil, pen, pastel, ink, digital
- Artworks – paintings, collage, sculpture
- Photographs
- Graphic design – posters, invitations, business cards
- Digital media – website, games, video/film, animation
- Work in progress – visual process diary, experimental, or unfinished work

We know your HSC major works might still be in development, and that's totally okay. We're keen to see your visual process diaries, experiments, and any works-in-progress—don't be afraid to share what you've created so far!

HOW TO DECIDE WHAT TO INCLUDE

You don't need to have everything that we've listed above, although showing a range of your skills and talent is a good approach. We will be evaluating your portfolio using the following criteria:

- Conceptual thinking and idea development
- Compositional skills
- Media use, technique, and execution
- Digital skills (if appropriate)

HOW TO PRESENT YOUR PORTFOLIO

Your portfolio will need to be presented digitally during your online interview. We recommend preparing a PowerPoint presentation or PDF of your work so you can easily share your screen and click through each project. Present one piece per page/slide so that each project can be viewed clearly. You may also include scanned or photographed pages from sketchbooks and visual process diaries, as well as work in progress, to demonstrate the development of your ideas, style and techniques.

You may include links to videos hosted on YouTube or Vimeo, but please be mindful of the limited interview time.

INTERVIEW

Online interviews will be held via Zoom on Thursday 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th August, between 3:20 pm and 5:40 pm. You will need to book an interview slot in between these times. There will be a zoom link available to you upon booking but be sure to provide your email address so we can also email you this prior.

Your interview is an opportunity to talk about the work in your portfolio, the materials and ideas, and your motivation for studying our program. You will be asked to answer a few questions about what inspires you and your experiences with design, and you are also welcome to bring questions for us! You should prepare to talk about one piece of work or project in detail during the interview; we will be very interested to hear how you think and solve problems, as well as seeing the final outcome.

You will be interviewed for 20 minutes by two academic staff. Your performance in the interview and your portfolio will determine if you are eligible for an early offer to the Bachelor of Design.

Current 2026 Year 12 students will be made an early offer (pending HSC completion) from September.

ZOOM DETAILS

Join the Zoom meeting at your booked interview time using the details below:

Zoom link: [Join the meeting](#)

<https://uws.zoom.us/j/82094685759?pwd=3E2J9w70TKkRJNBkNRhGqIjBVfvlB5.1&from=addon>

Meeting ID: 820 9468 5759

Password: 489178

If you're unsure how to share your screen during the interview, please see [Zoom's screen-sharing guide](#) or if you are worried about the tech requirements, please email a reduced size PDF to Michelle at m.catanzaro@westernsydney.edu.au before the interview as a back up.

We look forward to meeting you!
The Design Team