TU832 Architecture
Portfolio Submission
2025

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BHAILE ÁTHA CLIATH

TU DUBLIN

TECHNOLOGICAL
UNIVERSITY DUBLIN

PORTFOLIO & INTERVIEW GUIDELINES

We Want YOU!

TU Dublin School of Architecture, Building and Environment is delighted to invite applicants to our TU832 Bachelor of Architecture programme. We are looking forward to seeing your work and discussing your interest in architecture and design. We take a positive and inclusive approach to reviewing applications. Our aim is to ensure that entrants will enter their degree programme with the required skills and abilities to enjoy and progress well in their studies.

We are looking for people like YOU, full of ideas, reflective and critical thinkers, who will apply themselves and fully engage with us in their architecture education at TU Dublin.

We use an online system for Portfolio submission, followed by an Online Interview - please find information on this process and answers to some questions you may have below.

We wish you the best of luck with your application and hope to see you in September 2025.

What type of work should I submit in my Portfolio?

We would like to see a selection of your work (up to 20 pieces) that best represents your interest in architecture and design. Make sure your Portfolio is unique to you and shows your individual interests and abilities. We enjoy seeing a diverse range of work from interesting projects you have created and worked on inside and outside secondary school or pre-entry course. These might include sketches, models, drawings, art pieces, design ideas, sketchbooks, photographs, travel notebooks, woodwork, craft, film and any other creative endeavour particular to YOU!

We like to see creativity and originality in your projects or artwork. We also like to see the processes you adopted to develop these projects and to see how these worked out in the finished piece. We like to hear your reflection on these processes. We like to see your inquisitiveness and your ability to explore ideas, concepts and real physical spaces through your art, drawing, building, design work, photography, etc.

Architecture is a social endeavour, so we also like to see projects that show you working creatively with other people, for instance, in teams, schools, local communities, clubs, etc to help improve and deliver positive action for everyone. Organise and curate your Portfolio well and ensure it offers a good description of your work and creative thinking to date.

How should I prepare for my Interview?

The online Interview will allow us to get to know you a little more. We like to hear about your ideas around creativity and other ideas and concepts that you are interested in. We will ask some questions about work we find interesting in your Portfolio. We will have an opportunity to discuss how you worked through and reflected on your ideas to make the final pieces.

We will be interested to hear some of your own observations about places and spaces you like to visit. We like to hear about your interest in architecture and motivation for studying architecture at TU Dublin. It is worth reflecting on what interests you about architecture in advance of the interview so that you enjoy the opportunity to discuss this wonderful subject with us.

How will my Portfolio and Interview be marked?

The Portfolio and Interview are used to review the applicant's potential to learn from and contribute to the programme. Each will be marked using the following evaluation criteria:

- **Ideas**: Show creativity, imagination & originality
- **Critical Thinking**: Show spatial observation, reflective thinking and problem solving.
- **Application**: Show ambition, curiosity and motivation alongside your ability to make or craft things.
- **Engagement**: How you engage with the world? Show your social responsibility, your empathy for others and your ability to communicate clearly.
- **Discretionary**: Points awarded by panels based on suitability.

The Portfolio and Interview are worth a total of 200 CAO points. The maximum Portfolio score is 100 points. The maximum Interview score is 100 points. There is no minimum threshold but successful applicants usually score well in both. There will be a minimum of two assessors per portfolio and interview. In all cases, the decision of the review panel will be final.

What information will I need for my application?

You will need your 2025 CAO number, date of birth, the email address you used in your CAO application and your Portfolio File or File(s).

How do I submit my portfolio?

Portfolios for 2025 are submitted through our online platform, Slideroom. The platform will open after 10th March 2025 and all applicants will be sent a direct link. You will need to create a Slideroom account if you do not have one already.

What is the closing date for applications?

The closing date is **5pm Monday 14th April 2025.**

Can I start my application now and save it for editing/ submission later?

Once logged in to our system you can save your application and complete/ amend it anytime up to the deadline. Please note that you must remember to 'Submit' your application before the closing date. Applications saved in draft format will not be assessed. Once submitted, applications cannot be edited.

What types of files can I upload?

You can submit up to 20 pieces of work preferably combined into **a single PDF or Images document** no larger than 10MB. Please ensure that images are not too large and ensure they have been properly compiled into the single document in advance. If it is not possible to combine the work you may submit the image files individually with a max file size of 5MB per item. Video (up to 250MB each) can be submitted separately or may also link to media from YouTube and Vimeo. Videos should not be longer than 1 minute.

What if my images/ files are too big?
The above file limits should be more than adequate to represent your work, however there are plenty of ways to reduce your file sizes online if required such as:
Images: https://photoshop.adobe.com/
Pdfs: https://www.adobe.com/ie/acrobat/online/compress-pdf.html

How should I photograph my work?
You can photograph your work with a digital camera or good phone camera. The most important thing is to take your time and ensure you have good light.

How can I show my sketchbooks/ notebooks?
We are keen to see more than just finished work and strongly encourage applicants to submit rough work, sketchbooks, notebooks in any of the following formats:
Video: Make a short video using a phone or camera. You might try to use a simple tripod or set up your camera or phone in a fixed position so you can flick through the pages. Remember to follow the relevant photography tips, particularly in terms of lighting. Videos should not be longer than 1 minute.
Pdf: Scan or photograph pages of your sketchbook and present them in a PDF presentation. Remember that pdfs must be less than 10MB each.

Do I need to make an Applicant's Statement?
Applicants have the opportunity to make an optional personal statement. This will help us learn a little about you and your interest in our university. You may choose to use it as an opportunity to explain your work or your interest in the Bachelor of Architecture programme. This statement is not marked but may give some context to your work and may be referred to in your interview.

How will I get my results?
Portfolio & Interview scores will be issued to the email address supplied on your CAO application by the School of Architecture, Building and Environment as soon as they are available. Portfolio scores are usually issued in advance of the Interview date. Please ensure you use the same email address for your CAO application and portfolio submission. TU832 is a restricted programme so late applications will not be accepted.

What if I have a query?
For general course or portfolio queries please email the School at School.SABE@tudublin.ie.