M.Arch Program - Application Portfolio requirements

A portfolio is required of all M.Arch 2 and M.Arch 3 applicants. The portfolio should include evidence of recent creative work: personal, academic and/or professional. Work done collaboratively should be identified as such and your role in the project defined. Choose what you care about, what you think is representative of your best work, and what is expressive of you. (See “What to Include” below.)

Admission to the Master of Architecture program is a competitive process with priority given to applicants whose apparent abilities will enable them to complete the program expeditiously and with a high level of achievement. In evaluating applicants, a number of factors are taken into account by the Admissions Committee. The portfolio is a means whereby the candidate is best able to communicate the full range of their past experiences and future direction. It should include work, which demonstrates experience and ability in visual arts and design. The portfolio is of primary significance for candidates from design backgrounds who desire entry to the M. Arch program; however, applicants from other fields are also asked to show some graphic evidence of interest and aptitude in the design arts as well.

We expect that the portfolio will be created solely by the applicant. While there is no strict format, all the material should be contained in one bound 8-1/2" x 11" (22 x 28 cm) document. We suggest that you select a limited number of examples, which best show your qualifications and capabilities. We also encourage applicants to submit reproductions of work instead of originals and to be judicious in the choice of reproduction methods. We will assume that copies represent the actual quality of the original work in regard to line character, color, value, finish and other visual characteristics. Do not submit 35 mm slides, loose sheets, original drawings, CD's or videos. Web-based portfolios are not acceptable and will not be reviewed. The admission committee is interested in the quality of the work submitted; therefore, you are advised not to lavish energy and expense on special or unusual packaging.

What to include:

M.Arch 2 applicants:
- Projects
- Building Designs
- Analytical investigations
- Professional Work (identify your role)

M.Arch 3 applicants:
- Any of the above and/or graphic design, drawing, photography, art, and other types of work which best represent the applicant's knowledge, aptitudes and experience.
- The portfolio should be considered a design problem in itself.

Also you may wish to include a sample of your written work, if appropriate to your course of study and as further evidence of past scholarship or other abilities. Limit your submission to one or two items and provide an introductory context for each. (i.e. This paper written in response to …) Samples of written work may be particularly appropriate for the research-based study programs.

Return of your portfolio:
Include either a self-addressed stamped envelope (applicant is responsible for assuring correct postage amount), or arrange to pick up their portfolios from the Department Office.