

Creative Subject Guide



Creative Study

Creative courses can be studied at both college and university, at levels from SCQF Level 6 - 12!

College

Most colleges offer HNC/D creative courses but will also offer 'preparatory' portfolio or diploma level courses. These are not H.E study, however they can be used to gain entry to H.E courses and may have articulation agreements in place for further study. Visit college web pages for more information.

- [Dundee and Angus College](#)
- [Fife college](#)
- [Perth College UHI](#)
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If you want to go further afield, most other colleges in Scotland also offer creative courses.

University

Sometimes creative institutions are referred to as 'Art Schools or Colleges' this is an informal term that refers to Artistic Institutions historical independence from H.E.I's! Don't worry what the institution is called, just make sure you are looking at Bachelors or Masters courses.

- [Duncan of Joardanstone College of Art and Design, University of Dundee](#)
- [Edinburgh College of Art, University of Edinburgh](#)
- [Glasgow School of Art](#)
- [Gray's School of Art, Robert Gordon University](#)

Portfolio Information

Creative courses often require you to submit a portfolio alongside your application & personal statement. This is your chance to show off your creative interests and demonstrate your artistic ability to the admissions team. Your portfolio can include some work you make in school but **must** also have work created outside of the classroom!

You may be asked to submit a digi-folio, which is just a digital version of your portfolio and can be made using software such as PowerPoint. You will have to photograph or scan your physical work, then submit this online. You may also be asked to attend an interview and bring along your physical portfolio.

There is no one right way to create a portfolio, however here's a few tips to get you started:

- Make art work outside of school: whether it is drawing in a sketchbook or exploring materials, this will demonstrate your interests and artistic ability to admissions teams.
- Not every piece has to be 'finished'. Show your process, group images from your sketchbook with final work & even include prototypes, maquettes, or storyboard images!
- Remember to annotate your work- include information like size, material, project name or even your thought process.
- Read through portfolio requirements carefully! Each institution or course will be looking for you to demonstrate different things and have guidelines on size, length and submissions requirements.



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Resource

Here are some good resources that can help you to get creative, start your portfolio & find out more information about creative study:

- Access to Creative Education for Scotland (Tayside): **Personal Statement & Folio Resource**
- National Portrait Gallery: **Young Peoples Guide to Self Portraiture**
- National Galleries of Scotland: **Your Art World**
- V&A Dundee: **Learning Resources**
- Royal Institute of British Architecture: **Future Architect**

Checklist

Get ahead and prepare yourself for future creative study and applications:

Research courses and think about the ethos of the courses that interest you. If you are applying to more than one course, you might be able to submit multiple portfolios!

Get started making work for your portfolio! Keep artwork safe and flat, you can decide what to include when it comes time to apply.

As creative courses are very competitive, consider and find out the different routes to creative study open to you!

Get into good habits of using a sketchbook and making artwork outside of school time!

Visit galleries and museums, bring along your sketchbook to take notes on artists or artworks that you enjoy. Could these inspire some of your own work?



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