

INTERIOR DESIGN ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to meeting all of the academic requirements required for admission to Mount Royal University, applicants to the Bachelor of Interior Design Program are evaluated on a Directed Portfolio. The Directed Portfolio consists of a series of four components: the **Abstract Compositions** and **Drawing Exercises** (to be completed at home and sent to the Department), and an **In-person Discussion** and **Spatial Exercises** that form the on-site components of the portfolio held at Mount Royal University. Specific requirements for the **Directed Portfolio** are sent to each applicant who satisfies the general Mount Royal University and Department of Interior Design academic entrance requirements.

The purpose of the Directed Portfolio is not necessarily to determine the level of previously learned skills but rather to help determine a candidate's **potential** for success in the program.

Applicant anonymity and reviewer impartiality is very important to ensuring our process is fair and equitable. It is very important that each part of the Directed Portfolio is identified **ONLY** with the **STUDENT ID NUMBER** assigned to you by Mount Royal University. Any other identifying personal information may only be provided on the separate **Applicant Information Sheet** provided.

Please submit the completed **Abstract Compositions** and **Drawing Exercises** portions of the Portfolio in one (only) 9" x 12" mailing envelope (do not use plastic sleeves or fold the compositions). Applicants are encouraged to retain a photocopy or scanned copy of the submitted components for your own records as the originals will become the property of Mount Royal University and will not be returned.

The completed **Applicant Information Sheet**, **Abstract Compositions**, and **Drawing Exercises** must be postmarked or hand-delivered no later than:

12 Noon, Thursday, April 2nd, 2020

To:

The Department of Interior Design
Mount Royal University
Room N363, 4825 Mount Royal Gate SW
Calgary, Alberta, Canada
T3E 6K6

A Bachelor of Interior Design offer letter will be sent to each successful applicant by mid-May, 2020. It is important for applicants to understand that acceptance is for the upcoming academic year beginning in September, 2020 and that the Department of Interior Design does not permit deferred entry into the program.

If you are a graduate of an Interior Design Technology (IDT) diploma program in Alberta, please contact the ID Department's Academic Advisor, Paula Dozois (pdozois@mtroyal.ca) **before** proceeding with this admissions portfolio. Include your student number in your correspondence.

DIRECTED PORTFOLIO SUBMISSION

Please read the following descriptions and instructions completely and carefully. Applications that do not meet the requirements will not be considered.

ABSTRACT COMPOSITIONS

Set aside the four sheets of buff-coloured cardstock for the Drawing Exercise activity.

For the abstract compositions, you are provided with a “kit” of 5½” x 8½” cardstock (6 sheets of white, 6 sheets of black, 6 sheets of green). Take **3 sheets of each colour** and put them aside to use as “background” sheets. With the remaining **3 sheets** of each colour, cut out the geometric shapes based on the template provided (we recommend that you stack sheets 3 high with the template sheet on top, then cut through the stack of sheets along the template lines with a sturdy mat knife). These geometric shapes will be what you use to produce your compositions.

Using your geometric pieces create **six separate abstract compositions**. Each of your six compositions must express one of the following words:

- Curious
- Bored

- Aloof
- Dependant

- Fragrant
- Neutral

On one side of a sheet of the background paper (your choice from the “background” sheets you set aside), arrange the geometric shapes into a composition that you feel **visually communicates** each word above. When you are satisfied with your composition(s), glue each piece carefully and securely to the background paper. **On the back** of each composition, clearly and **legibly print the name of the word** you are expressing in the composition, along with your **Student ID Number (do not include name)**. The placing of the word and your student number on the back indicates the viewing orientation of your composition.

For Your Information:

Yes, you may use as many or as few pieces for each composition as you like (as long as you do not go over the maximum number of pieces).

No, you may not use your own paper. Please only use the paper that is provided.

No, you may not add additional paper or shapes. Please limit yourself to the maximum number of pieces you cut out of the 9 sheets allotted for this purpose.

Yes, there will be three sheets of background paper left over after you complete your compositions.

Be careful with your “kit” as replacements will not be provided.

(Reviewers will be looking for evidence of) ability to translate a word into an abstract visual language as well as a basic aptitude with elements and principles of composition. The compositions are evaluated on their ability to differentiate concepts, the clarity of intention, and the expressiveness of the visual definition.

DRAWING EXERCISES

Start by creating a still life with a minimum of five objects. At least one object should be transparent, one object should be reflective, and one object should be textured. Be sure to overlap objects so that parts may be seen in reflection or through the transparent object. Take into account a light source (which does not need to be included in the composition).

After composing the still life, create four timed sketches of the composition, each one on a separate piece of the buff-coloured cardstock provided. Limit the time for the first sketch to one minute, for the second to 5 minutes, the third to 15 minutes, and the fourth to one hour. On the back of each composition, **clearly and legibly print the time used and your student ID.**

Drawings are to be completed using charcoal, conté or graphite leads (no lead harder than HB).

(Reviewers will be looking for evidence of) competent and expressive line quality, textural variations, the rendering of light and shadow, and emerging drawing skill.

MRU ON-SITE PORTFOLIO ACTIVITIES

There are two activities held on site at Mount Royal University that each candidate must participate in to be considered for admission into the Interior Design Program.

Candidates should expect the on-site components to occur between **Thursday, April 16th to Saturday, April 18th, and Tuesday, April 21st to Thursday, April 23rd, 2020.** They will take place in the Department of Interior Design. The office number is room **N363**. Applicants should expect to reserve about **one hour** for the on-site activities.

Applicants will be contacted by email or telephone to schedule the date and time of the activities.

In some cases, candidates may be able to complete these activities remotely in situations where significant distance is a factor (northern Alberta, out of province, or out of country - scheduling conflicts are not considered). Candidates in remote areas must have access to a telephone, an internet connection, and a scanner to effectively participate. Please contact Sarah Block at sblock@mtroyal.ca or 403.440.5143 if you feel that you may be eligible for this type of arrangement on receipt of this letter.

IN-PERSON DISCUSSION TOPIC

Before coming to Mount Royal University for the in-person discussion, candidates are asked to **listen to a podcast** and come prepared to talk about it.

Click on the play button to listen to the podcast from the website *99% Invisible Episode Sound and Health*. Click or paste the link below to access:

<https://99percentinvisible.org/episode/sound-and-health-cities/>

After listening to the design-related audio presentation online, candidates will have an opportunity to express their thoughts and discuss the two questions below with two faculty members. The individual discussion will require 8-10 minutes.

Question 1) According to the podcast, describe how sound impacts health in urban environments.

Question 2) How could sound impact health in interior environments?

(Reviewers will be looking for) evidence of critical thinking and clarity of communication

SPATIAL EXERCISES

Candidates will be asked to complete a series of exercises that look for visual and spatial abilities. These spatial visualization exercises test the ability to resolve two- and three-dimensional puzzles. The exercises range from simple to complex, and are in the form of a quiz. Students will be asked to complete as many of the questions as possible in 10 minutes. Paper and pencils will be provided; cellphones and computers are not allowed.

(Reviewers will be looking for) the number of spatial visualization questions completed correctly.

THANK YOU FOR APPLYING