How to prepare your portfolio

This is what the formal instructions say:

“The portfolio is curated and annotated to show your aptitude for the Design program.”

“We are looking for demonstrated interdisciplinary skills, a demonstrated ability to explore and learn through design, and demonstrated craft skills in design process execution, finishing and presentation.”

But what does that mean, in practice?

Most importantly, you want to include items in your portfolio that tell stories of design projects.

• What was the purpose of the project?
• What did you learn during the design process?
• How did you get from the initial purpose to the final solution?
• How did you validate the solution?

In other words, your portfolio should present case studies, and not only final results.

Moving on, interdisciplinary skills refer to combining the strengths of different design disciplines. It could be a project where an industrial designer and a graphic designer work together, for example.

If you have portfolio projects made by interdisciplinary teams, make sure to identify your individual contribution.

[Sources for the examples, tap to bottom: pistachioemade.com, emelyn baker.com, invisionapp.com, suzanchoy.com, christinewalthall.com]