

PRODUCT AND FURNITURE DESIGN BA (HONS)

INTERVIEW ADVICE



PRODUCT AND FURNITURE DESIGN BA (HONS)

Product and Furniture Design at DMU will encourage you to make bold challenges to convention. You'll study the functional and market-led requirements of product and furniture design, looking at ergonomics, aesthetics and usability. Specific areas include visual language, branding, user-centred design, computer-aided design (CAD), 3D design and modelling, and design cultures. You'll learn about sustainability and examine the development of socially conscious products that, through their technical specification, reduce waste and conserve energy.

YOUR INTERVIEW

University interviews are often a new experience for applicants and we want to ensure that anyone applying to De Montfort University (DMU) is given the most useful information to make the experience an enjoyable one.

WHY DO WE INTERVIEW?

Our interview days are designed not only for us to assess your suitability for the course, but also to make sure you are choosing the right course for you. Universities interview where a specific skill set is required, Product and Furniture Design requires design and artistic ability and we will assess this within your portfolio review.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN ON THE DAY?

The day will include a selection of events comprising a course presentation, portfolio review and interview.

On the day you will be able to see current student work, speak to staff about the support available at DMU and tour our facilities supporting you in the decision making process. There will also be an opportunity to go on a campus and accommodation tour.

See dmu.ac.uk/applicantinterviewdays for further information and help to plan your day.

CAN I BRING SOMEONE WITH ME?

You are welcome to bring a guest with you to your Interview Day and they will be able to come along to any of the activities that do not form part of the selection process. Where it is not possible for your guest to stay with you (i.e. during the interview) there will be plenty of waiting areas such as the Food Village, Newarke Café or the Riverside Café. Guests will also have the opportunity to talk to current students and staff.

WHAT TO EXPECT...

HOW LONG WILL THE INTERVIEW LAST?

The interview and portfolio review will last for approximately 15 minutes.

Your interview and portfolio review forms part of your interview day, there will be opportunities to talk to academics and meet current students throughout the day, along with facilities, campus and accommodation tours.

WILL I BE INTERVIEWED ON MY OWN OR IN A GROUP?

You will be interviewed on your own by one of the course tutors.

HOW WILL THE INTERVIEW BE STRUCTURED?

The interviewer will discuss with you your interest in the course and your portfolio of work. Throughout the discussion we will be looking for you to demonstrate:

- Creative problem solving
- Innovative thinking
- Idea generation and development
- An interest in product and furniture design
- Visual awareness
- The ability to think three dimensionally

WHAT CAN I DO TO PREPARE?

Think about why you have applied to Product and Furniture Design and why you have chosen DMU.

Read your application and remind yourself what you have said.

You will be given the opportunity to ask questions at the end of your individual interview, try to think of two or three questions in preparation to ensure that you are able to engage in that part of the interview.

Consider carefully what work you would like to include in your portfolio. Our portfolio advice can be found online at dmu.ac.uk/portfolioadvice and is a really useful resource to help you to develop and present the best portfolio that you can. It would be beneficial to practice talking through your work. Ask yourself:

- Does your portfolio demonstrate the full range of your skills and personal approach?
- Does it convey your interest in the subject for which you have applied?

YOU MAY BE ASKED...

- Why have you chosen Product and Furniture Design?
- Why have you chosen DMU?
- What do you hope to do when you graduate?
- How have your current skills and experiences helped you to prepare for university study?



Design by Grace Mak,
Product and Furniture Design BA (Hons), graduate



DURING THE INTERVIEW...

- Remember that you have been invited to the interview as you have already shown potential so try to relax, smile and be confident
- Listen and consider your replies. Ensure that you are not just giving, yes/no answers
- If you do not understand a question, don't guess, politely ask the interviewer to rephrase or clarify
- Be enthusiastic, course tutors will be looking for applicants who share their enthusiasm for the subject

DON'T FORGET...

- To bring along your invite, reminder email detailing your registration location and itinerary
- To make sure you have planned your journey in advance – see our website dmu.ac.uk/applicantinterviewdays for travel information
- To have read our course pages to help you prepare for and anticipate interview questions dmu.ac.uk/productfurnituredesign

WHAT HAPPENS IF I AM RUNNING LATE ON THE DAY?

We know that delays are sometimes unavoidable so if you are running late on the day, please contact the Interview Events Team on +44 (0)116 207 8443 or email interviews@dmu.ac.uk as soon as you are able to and let us know your estimated arrival time. If necessary, we can tell you any alternate arrangements for your interview e.g. change of registration location. In some instances, if you expect to be significantly late, we may suggest you book for a different date.

WHEN WILL I HEAR IF I HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL?

We aim to make decisions as soon as possible after the interview. In most cases these are communicated to you via letter and an update on UCAS Track within a week of you attending the event.

We will also be in touch if we are unable to make a decision straight away.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND ADVICE

For lots more information and advice about the Interview Day, including help to plan your travel, catering options and what else you will have the option of seeing and doing during the day, go to dmu.ac.uk/applicantinterviewdays

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

We endeavour to make all our events completely accessible. However, if you have any specific requirements or require additional facilities, please inform the Interview Events Team via email - interviews@dmu.ac.uk or call +44 (0)116 207 8443.

For more information about your interview day please contact the Interview Events Team:

T: +44 (0)116 207 8443



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W: dmu.ac.uk/productfurnituredesign
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