Transfer Student Portfolio Review

The Cal Poly Architecture Department requires transfer students to participate in a Portfolio Review and advising meeting before being authorized to enroll in classes for their first quarter. This is to ensure that the student knows exactly which courses in our program have been fulfilled by community college or other university course work, and what their recommended enrollment plan is for the Fall term. It has been our experience that transfer students who did not participate in the Portfolio Review/Advising program had difficulty selecting the correct courses for their first quarter. Making the wrong enrollment decisions in the first quarter has cost many students an entire year in progress toward their degree. It is this experience that led us to move to a mandatory Portfolio Review and Advising program for all transfer students.

April Open House & Admitted Student Day Portfolio Review

This is the only comprehensive review prior to the Fall registration period, and is the one we strongly recommend transfer students attend. Architecture and Architectural Engineering faculty are prepared to review student work toward credit for all first and second year major and support courses.

September Week of Welcome Portfolio Review

This is the final opportunity for a comprehensive Portfolio Review. Once again faculty from both Architecture and Architectural Engineering will be on hand. However, students who wait until September to have their portfolio materials assessed lose the opportunity to utilize their one-time “new student priority” for registration. Students who wait until September may find that the classes they need are already full. When classes are full, the options are to go from class-to-class to try to add courses late, or work with an advisor to develop a plan to catch up.

Note to Cuesta and Bakersfield College transfer students: If you received a “B” or better in architecture courses, you are required to attend advising in order to register for classes. If you received less than a “B” you must go through portfolio review.

Portfolio Format & Content

There is no set format or size for portfolios. Bring the following with you to the portfolio review to ensure that faculty can appropriately evaluate your work for academic credit. Do not mail your portfolio!

- a copy of your transcripts indicating all course work completed and work in progress
- a copy of the syllabus or your college catalog course descriptions for each transfer course that you wish our faculty to review
- reproductions or originals of all final projects and representative process work (e.g., preliminary sketches), notes taken in class, and other course work in design and graphics, practice, and architectural engineering
- photos of models (do not bring models)

If you have additional questions about what to bring, contact the Architecture Department by phone: (805) 756-1316 or by e-mail: architecture@calpoly.edu.