

Personal Statement

Film has always been a passion of mine and telling stories through moving images. I have established two of my favourite directors as being Edgar Wright and Matthew Vaughn, having seen a number of their films and gained inspiration towards the role of writing and directing through them. I believe that this course offers the technical experiences which will further my awareness when working with industry-based equipment. There are many opportunities which this course offers for students who study it. With the film industry, having the connections depicted in the course description, is what furthers the likelihood of getting into the job role I want. With directing as an example, you start out in the industry wherever is possible. You then build up to the role and with the opportunities this course offers, I believe that I can do this and work towards my ambitions.

During an open evening at the college, I volunteered to welcome and assist visitors as they explored the facilities. When asked questions about the vision mixing studio, I was able to communicate and enthuse about the facilities on offer. I demonstrated how the vision mixing board worked and explained how it is used to edit live interviews and events. This was an extremely useful experience as it allowed me to develop my communication skills. Now, I believe that I will adapt to talking to people who are unfamiliar with the subject area, with confidence. During summer of 2016, I attended a BFI residential course. There, I successfully used my initiative and further developed my ability to work in groups with other people. I was even enlightened on how films are distributed within the industry. We were asked to work together to choose three films, depicted as fairy tales, for a screening event. I also did work experience with Sheffield Doc/Fest and developed my flexibility within the roles given. These included helping out at a talk with channel five executives at the Crucible theatre. There, I helped the audience interact with the guests by showing them to the seating areas and operating the microphone during the aftermath of the event. This flexibility is always useful with film making, as you may take on several roles throughout as opposed to just one. Also I was, to some extent, directing people and this is a role, within the industry, I am passionate about. Directing these people, though seeming irrelevant, expanded my communication skills.

One of my strengths lays in the role of directing. In the first year filming my final project, the people I worked with were confident with what my vision was. I constantly made sure everyone was comfortable with their roles and worked collaboratively with the cinematographer. The final product proved to be successful and, after screening it to the class, I received positive feedback. I believe that university is my next level of education as the working environment there is one which influences me to learn and to produce work on a regular basis whereas apprenticeships tend to fall short of my requirements and lack inspiration to me.

In my spare time I make short films, outside of college. Often, these films depict a diverse range of genres from horror through to action. Having recently purchased slightly more advanced filming equipment, I have begun experimenting more with my short films and engaging in more detailed planning and projects. As well as making short films, I also create the scores which are featured in them. I do this using a piece of software from home which I have spent two to three years familiarizing myself with. I believe that carrying these skills forward onto this course at university will allow me to establish my own style of storytelling and perhaps surface opportunities for me to assist others in their projects. I hope to share my ideas with others in working towards telling my own stories and, eventually, bring inspiration and wonder back into the world of cinema.