Student Interview 5

Interview Date: 27/10/2020

Interview Location: Limerick Institute of Technology

(TIMECODE): 00:00:02:00

Interviewer: Just starting off, just tell us a bit about yourself and the course that you currently enrolled yourself on.

Participant: Okay, I’m a mature student and I didn’t think I would fit in so I decided to go, I just I was going to go for marketing but I said, be honest with yourself and do what you’ve always loved which is film making. So I eventually saw the Creative Broadcast post go up and I said Okay I’m going to go for that. And I was scared at first because I’m going to be enrolled with a bunch of children but no everyone made me feel really welcome and so far I’m loving it and I’ve learnt so much in four years, its crazy. I never thought I would learn so much about film making in my life. Its, the course is really good. Its really well designed. Its really well laid out and all the lecturers are really, really helpful and hands-on and yeah that makes it a lot easier for us I believe.

TIMECODE: 00:00:54:12

Interviewer: And when you were looking at the course originally, was it the prospectus you were looking at (it was yeah) was there anything about the prospectus that attracted you?

Participant: Well, I didn’t know it existed to begin with, that’s why I went for marketing, but then I saw something else and I went to a science event with my son. And a girls who’s well grew up in the Island Field, she’s now head of Disney and that’s… okay if she can do it, I can freaking do it. I mean I come from like Moyross myself so. And then I looked around and saw-like Tralee, and I went to the open day in Troy Studios and I still heard about LIT and for some circumstance it came up on my laptop at one point and I said, my God it’s around the corner. So I then investigated further with LIT and I went to the open days and that’s how I found out about it. But yeah.. I was kind of hidden away. (laughs)

TIMECODE: 00:01:44:12

Interviewer: Was there anything in that literature or online that lind of… was there any keywords they used to attract you to it or was there anything particular about the course that, the wording about the course???

Participant: Just the filmmaking, I didn’t know it involved animations or anything like that or communication, so it was just the film making part that I was mostly interested in.

TIMECODE: 00:02:02:16

Interviewer: Okay so just to again because this research is focusing on editing and post-production, did you have any experience of editing before starting this course?

Participant: Never, then once I started I was like, this is really good. I think this is my area.

Interviewer: What would be your perception of editing, what did you think editing was before you started?

Participant: Never really thought about it actually, I always though filmmaking before was like directing and like doing the hands-on studio work. I never really thought about the post-production side of things until I came here. I was like oh yeah. I knew it existed but I didn’t think about it basically, but yeah, its really fun.

TIMECODE: 00:02:38:00

Interviewer: So as you were progressing through first year and again as a mature student, and with a lot of life experience behind you obviously, what was it about the editing… was it that the content itself or what was it specifically about editing that kind of…?

Participant: Making the stories basically, creating the story out of it because yeah you can follow the script and go with whatever was filmed but at the end of the day you have to create a story and I love that about it. It’s making something from small pieces and creating into one big giant project at the end. I love that part of it.

TIMECODE: 00:03:17:14

Interviewer: Okay so the equipment that you have available to work with here, can you just describe it to us?

Participant: Like inside the studios we have… are you on about the software or the equipment?

Interviewer: Hardware or software

Participant: Hardware, up where we have the Avid and Da Vinci, I enjoy both. I used to like the premiere but not so much ever since I started on Avid. I really liked Avid. And DaVinci is more convienient for home nowadays, so that’s why I tend to use DaVinci more but I enjoy using Avid. And I haven’t touched Premiere since first year actually.

TIMECODE: 00:03:50:08

Interviewer: Was there something about Premiere that you just didn’t like?

Participant: I just, I liked it, but it just seemed easy. Whereas Avid kind of like pushed me. Kind of okay how do I fix this problem, whereas premiere’s kind of hit a button and there you go, it’s fixed. Because with Avid you have to dig in a look. DaVinci is similar to Premiere in my opinion, but its more convenient for me to work from home because considering what we’re in at the moment.

TIMECODE: 00:04:14:01

Interviewer: Okay and the spaces that are available here, what’s your opinion of the… what’s available to work with here, space wise?

Participant: Space wise, yeah. Its okay, it would be better if there was more rooms in my opinion because it can get really congested at certain times of the year. But yeah the layout is perfect we all have our own little space. If we need to go to a private studio, its fine. Upstairs in the main building we all have our own little area so its perfect. Nobody is stuck on top of each other.

TIMECODE: 00:04:43:15

Interviewer: Okay… Sorry now I’m just trying to get my thoughts about this… can you describe the type of literature or course content that’s used to teach you editing?

Participant: The literature are usually files loaded onto the Moodle for us. And I do my little bits at home. But its like… knowledge basically is what we are given. I follow a lot when the post-production side was posted up I go through everything. Like it more you're given the videos that you're posting up and I watch through them and I also have a couple of the master classes at home so I go through them as well. But it helps especially with the manuals that are uploaded. That’s very helpful as well in my opinion.

TIMECODE: 00:05:37:10

Interviewer: And the type of content you're cutting with. Do you mean… can you describe how that’s helpful or if it’s helpful at all?

Participant: Yeah because as I said you're given raw material. It’s good to keep at it and so you can see the mistakes you wouldn’t have seen a year or two ago. Like nowadays I pay more attention to the cutting basically. Especially on labs, I’m looking, I’m saying okay this is done already so I have to think of it from a professionals point of view. How would they cut this? Don’t be an amateur about it. I’m really delving in this year.

TIMECODE: 00:06:14:20

Interviewer: Just moving on, can you describe to me your interpretation of Craft and craftsmanship?

Participant: Craft is… craftsmanship is something that you apply to something in my opinion. Its like you have something and you apply to it and you make it what it is. Craft then is something you’ve gained over years of experience and stuff. That’s what I think of it anyways.

TIMECODE: 00:06:39:04

Interviewer: Do you consider editing to be a craft?

Participant: Yeah (okay why so?). Because you have to know what you are doing. Like it’s not like you can’t just be some regular guy off the road come in and edit something and think you're…not… no its like certain techniques you have to know to otherwise… because I made a few mistakes and a couple of times there I’ll rush it and then I’ll look back on it and I could have done that better… it does not make sense and that’s why I started studying up at home like Walter Murch and all that and paying attention to the little details of the people on the screen at that moment.

TIMECODE: 00:07: 15:04

Interviewer: Okay, do you feel you're learning about craft and craftsmanship of editing on your programme and if so can you give me an example of what you mean?

Participant: An example…. Lets see…

Interviewer: Well, the first part… do you feel you're learning about craft and craftsmanship?

Participant: I am. I’ve learned a lot more than ever this… from day one I’ve learned a lot. It’s pretty hands-on it’s like this is it… I’m not going mess around with you I’m going to show you exactly how it’s done and take it upon yourselves to do it or don’t do it. So yeah very hands-on here. And as an example would be just with labs in general its like, ‘I’m going to show you how it’s done quickly and I want you to do it a d I can help you and if you need help come to me’. It’s very beneficial to be in class that’s what I’m trying to get to because you get a lot of help and support.

TIMECODE: 00:08:08:09

Interviewer: okay, do you think that your interpretation is formed from lectures or is it formed from other sources that craft or editing is a craft?

Participant: From everywhere, I take it from everywhere not just from one source.

Interviewer: Okay, Here is a quick one. Do you have your own equipment at home? Edit suite, editing space?

Participant: I do.

Interviewer: Okay can you describe it?

Participant: Its just basically we have like this little area, between the hallway and the back door. And we have converted it into a little office with a desk and a desktop computer and a laptop and I just edit in there and do my homework in there away from the kids, the noise (laughs).

TIMECODE: 00:08:49:08

Interviewer: And do you feel that space, I mean that space, do you feel that forms, do it help you form almost an editing identity in there do you feel?

Participant: Yes, because you can lock the door and be away, shut yourself away from everything.

Interviewer: Why do you make such effort to create that?

Participant: Because this is like… failure is not an option for me at this point in my age, so I have to put a hundred percent in all of the time. And it can get stressful but I’m just gonna keep powering through. Its for their benefit that’s how I see it.

TIMECODE: 00:09:22:21

Interviewer: What do you enjoy about editing? And can you give me some examples?

Participant: I enjoy seeing what I can make from it. If it’s not good then it’s not good but if its good its good. But I enjoy seeing how I have all these little clips and I can make these tiny little clips and create this sequence of events that have happened. A whole story. It’s hard to describe but it’s like, how do I put it together. It’s like having a load of stuff and just throw it on the table and I just arrange it like a puzzle. Basically, that’s what it’s like. I enjoy it because again its part of the film making, and I just like creating.

TIMECODE: 00:09:59:10

Interviewer: So how does your experience before you started compare to your experience now that you're in your final year?

Participant: A lot more confident. I feel a lot more comfortable doing what I’m doing and not second-guessing myself a lot. Because I’ve been practicing a lot at home doing my own thing so, I had to do that because otherwise I’m not going to leave fourth year not feeling accomplished at this point.

TIMECODE: 00:10:24:11

Interviewer: So do you feel then that you're learning about editing and obviously the other modules as well has helped form a new identity for yourself?

Participant: Yeah, (okay how so?) … because before I was really quiet and always stuck at home and felt like I had to be a mother and I always wanted this option but because I was a mother young, I coudnt do it. My life revolved around the kids and it got to a point where I was like okay, they’re going into teenage years now I can do this. So I finally did what I needed to do to be me and finally, but its given me so much confidence just being here for the last four years.

Interviewer: Okay, So getting onto the lecturer now, what do you think is the role of the lecturer in teaching editing?

TIMECODE: 00:11:12:12

Participant: Basically showing you the softwares, showing you what you can do with the footage and a basic layout of how you can edit and then ‘ show me what you can do’. So that’s the way I take from it.

Interviewer: Okay, and do you feel the lecturer… do you feel that it’s a requirement that the lecturer needs to be from industry in order to best teach that particular subject?

Participant: I mean it would help because they’d have hands-on experience whereas it wouldn’t be beneficial to somebody who has walked into the position and doesn’t know anything about anything, saying ‘this is how you do it’, just like you wouldn’t really take them seriously because there’s someone who’s been doing it for a time you know okay that’s their passion they know what they are talking about

TIMECODE: 00:11:55:06

Interviewer: So, does it help your interpretation of a lecture so, do you kind of feel a bit more respect for the lecturer, that they have been through a long journey and industry journey and everything else?

Participant: I’d say so because it would take,, it requires a lot to leave, like balancing your liked like that to teach people how to do this plus do it on the side. So there is a lot of respect there for somebody who doesn’t have the love for it.

Interviewer: So finally, where do you see yourself working in the future?

Participant: Oh see, I’m torn between two things. I want to direct but I also love the editing side of things so, I would love to, I don’t know I’m trying to tackle that down this year before I leave so I know exactly which road I’m going on but definitely somewhere in production, post-production areas where I want to be.

Interviewer: Okay, and you think you can achieve that?

Participant: Oh, I’d say 100 percent, I cant fail. That’s what I keep saying to myself every single day, failure is not an option.

Interviewer: Thanks, a mil.

Participant: Oh perfect.

INTERVIEW ENDED.