

Questionnaire on Filmmaking

1. Who is teaching you?

Former or current experts of the industries, Screen production teachers, Media production organisation teachers, redactional teachers, sound teachers, cameraman who is still working, with lots of experience

2. How much does it cost to make a basic film?

It depends on what you want to do and what equipment you choose

3 minute film costs about 1000€ - 7 cameras 15000€

3. Do you particularly specialize on something within filmmaking?

First you study all the steps and then You choose your favorite: animation, filming, post-production , cinematography , editing....

4. How do you organize when having many people making a film?

Everyone has to know what to do. So the responsible person (coordinator) makes a planning to distribute the tasks. Every department has his own rol.

5. How does the future of filmmaking industry look like?

It is risky because there are many people interested in the industry so there are less chances to get a job, but it is growing bigger. On the other hand, technique is replacing people's jobs, and that makes it harder for us to get an employment.

6. How do you get ideas?

YouTube, TV, internet, movies, music, brainstorming, ... If you get a contract, they tell you what they want, so there is less space for creativity.

7. Which are the most important difficulties you go through?

Time could be the main a problem. Selling the films is also difficult. Carrying equipment can be difficult. Unplanned work makes everything harder.

Money issues, schedule, and reaching the expected quality of work.

8. Why did you choose to become a filmmaker?

Because of the passion, fun, personal interest, creative, you never stop learning. We are creative people who love to tell stories.

9. Which are the basic stages/ steps on the film process?

Ideas, storyboard, script, money, contact, choosing actors and team, camera, light, locations, music, finally you get the product

10. What's your favourite part of filmmaking?

Writing, shooting, camera, editing, post production, cutting, effects

11. Is the filmmaking industry well paid?

At the beginning it is enough for living but it depends on what you are working on. You have to be very good to succeed. Those who succeed can make a lot of money, but they are 10% of the whole.

12. How glamorous is the film industry after all?

It depends on the film industry. Our work is hard work, no glamorous at all.

13. Tell us a fact, people don't usually know about filmmaking.

The hard work, filming all day just for 30 seconds

Live production is really difficult, and needs a lot of people working behind the scenes.

14. Are there any vacancies in the film industry in Dortmund?

In Dortmund only local productions and news. Köln for example is a good city for media

15. Did you always want to become a filmmaker?

It depends on the person. Some didn't expect it at the beginning. Others have always been creative people

16. If somebody would like to become a filmmaker, what should he/she do?

Practice, because this is learning by doing. Also get contact with other people in this job and gain experience. You need strong motivation, and work hard and be patient. Creativity is also important.

17. Do you always write a script before filming.

Yes, though it might depend on what you are filming.

18. Do you record sound directly or in separated tracks?

It depends on, for example for the films you do it in separate tracks

19. Which video editor software is the best?

Avid, Adobe premier, final cut, Sony Vegas, movie maker, Adobe after effects, premium pro,

20. How do you proceed from one scene to another? Transitions?

It depends, you can do it with transitions or picture by picture. Hard cuts, fade in, fade out, music/ sound before next scene.

21. What are the chances for youngsters in the film industry?

It depends on the effort, it is a lot of work. You must be talented, and connected with a lot of people.

22. What is the most important thing to think of before making a film?

Many things:

- the topic, the Message you want to transmit. You must have a good idea to show to people.
- Planning, organization of people and tasks/ materials..

- Working with sharpness. You must focus actors, not in the middle. Main character should be on the right side of the camera. Light is also very important. White balance.

Questionnaire for the filmmaking students on Robert Bosch Berufskolleg Dortmund, made by the Erasmus+ "Recording Our Europe" students, in the frame of the Dortmund students meeting. 11.-15. May 2015.