

FILM & MEDIA DEPARTMENT

TOP TIPS

for becoming a successful Post 16 FILM STUDIES student



- 1 Read and watch the material provided on the tallismedia.weebly.com website for the components you have studied and the Threshold Concepts for Film and Media.
- 2 Watch interviews or documentaries on the filmmakers, theorists or film movements and you are studying. Take notes after each one.
- 3 Read critical essays about the history and theory of film, many of which can be found online. Take notes and make lists of critical vocabulary.
- 4 Explore the film studies books in the library, or the books and journals in room 1115. Ask your teachers for recommended reading related to the syllabus and your interests.
- 5 Visit film websites like IMDB.com, screenonline, or filmsite.org to stay informed about what's happening in the film world. Make a list of key or unusual facts about significant films.
- 6 Learn how to use the department's DSLRs and filming accessories (rigs, tripods, lights, sound equipment) effectively. Learn about shutter speed, ISO, white balance, aperture, depth of field, how environment affects sound quality etc. through trial and error.
- 7 Go over lesson material on a weekly, termly and end of topic basis, creating revision materials (flashcards for key terms, concepts and theories, phrasing sheets to explain frames, sequences or ideas etc).
- 8 Follow film critics, educators, theorists, directors and industry practitioners on YouTube, Twitter and Facebook. For example Edgar Wright, Mark Kermode, Ryan Johnson.
- 9 Visit vimeo.com and watch the manager's picks, or shortoftheweek.com to develop your knowledge of the short film to support your coursework.
- 10 Follow the film studies blog for your class and like and follow TallisVMA on Facebook and Twitter for relevant articles, videos and information. Watch, read, take notes.